NBA OFFICIALS MEDIA GUIDE 2019-20

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NBA OFFICIAL

The newly redesigned NBA Official (http://nba.com/official) is your source for the latest news and information about the NBA officiating program.

The site features the NBA Rulebook, NBA Video Rulebook and NBA Replay Archive. In addition, Last Two Minute Reports, referee game assignments and pool reporter transcripts are available.

For real-time rules clarifications, please follow NBA Official on Twitter @NBAOfficial.

NBA MEDIA CENTRAL

NBA Media Central (https://mediacentral.nba.com) is a password-protected website designed for media who regularly cover the NBA.

Membership to the site includes easy access to box scores and statistics; team game notes; press releases; credential timelines; team logos; head shots of players, coaches, referees and league executives; original content; and information about the WNBA, NBA G League and NBA 2K League.

To register for the site, please visit https://mediacentral.nba.com/register/.

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2019-20 NBA KEY DATES

September 6	Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame Enshrinement (Springfield, Mass.)
September 27	First allowable date for players participating in preseason games outside North America to report to their teams (no earlier than 11 a.m. local time)
September 28	Training Camps open for all teams participating in preseason games outside North America
September 30	First allowable date for other veteran players to report to teams (no earlier than 11 a.m. local time)
September 30	NBA Preseason games begin
October 1	Training Camps open for all other teams
October 4	NBA India Games 2019: Indiana Pacers vs. Sacramento Kings (Mumbai)
October 5	NBA India Games 2019: Indiana Pacers vs. Sacramento Kings (Mumbai)
October 8	NBA Japan Games 2019: Houston Rockets vs. Toronto Raptors (Tokyo)
October 10	NBA Japan Games 2019: Houston Rockets vs. Toronto Raptors (Tokyo)
October 10	NBA China Games 2019: Brooklyn Nets vs. Los Angeles Lakers (Shanghai)
October 12	NBA China Games 2019: Brooklyn Nets vs. Los Angeles Lakers (Shenzhen)
October 17	NBA Canada Series 2019: Dallas Mavericks vs. LA Clippers (Vancouver)
October 18	NBA Preseason games end
October 21	Rosters set for start of 2019-20 NBA Regular Season (5 p.m. ET)
October 22	2019-20 NBA Regular Season begins (Kia NBA Tip-Off 2019)
December 12	NBA Mexico City Games 2019: Dallas Mavericks vs. Detroit Pistons (Mexico City)
December 14	NBA Mexico City Games 2019: San Antonio Spurs vs. Phoenix Suns (Mexico City)
January 5	10-day contracts may now be signed
January 10	All contracts are guaranteed for the remainder of the season
January 15	Last day to sign NBA Two-Way contracts
January 24	NBA Paris Game 2020: Charlotte Hornets vs. Milwaukee Bucks (Paris)
February 6	NBA Trade Deadline (3 p.m. ET)
February 14-16	NBA All-Star 2020 (Chicago)
March 1	Playoff Eligibility Waiver Deadline
April 15-18	Portsmouth Invitational Tournament (Portsmouth, Va.)
April 15	2019-20 NBA Regular Season ends
April 16	Rosters set for NBA Playoffs 2020 (3 p.m. ET)
April 18	NBA Playoffs 2020 begin
April 26	NBA Early Entry Eligibility Deadline (11:59 p.m. ET)
May 4-5	Conference Semifinals begin (possible move up to May 2-3)
May 19	NBA Draft Lottery 2020 (Chicago)
May 19-20	Conference Finals begin (possible move up to May 17-18)
May 21-24	NBA Draft Combine 2020 (Chicago)
June 4	NBA Finals 2020 begin
June 15	NBA Draft Early Entry Entrant Withdrawal Deadline (5 p.m. ET)
June 21	The Finals 2020 latest possible date
June 25	NBA Draft 2020

REFEREE OPERATIONS PROFILES 2019-20 SEASON

Byron Spruell
President, League Operations
National Basketball Association

Byron Spruell started in his role as President, League Operations in August 2016.

Spruell oversees critical league operations, including the Basketball Operations, Referee Operations and Basketball Strategy & Analytics departments, as well as the processes regarding the management of rule changes, the evaluation and training of game officials, and the enforcement of conduct standards and discipline. He also collaborates with USA Basketball and the International Basketball Federation (FIBA) to promote the global growth of the game.

Before joining the NBA, Spruell spent 20 years at Deloitte LLP, most recently as its Vice Chairman, Central Region Market Leader. He spearheaded the firm's client and business growth and strategic positioning across 22 states consisting of 31 offices and more than 14,000 Deloitte professionals in the region. He also served as Chicago Managing Principal, supervising talent and community involvement initiatives in the local office.

Spruell has served on several charitable boards and committees, including World Business Chicago and the Civic Committee of the Commercial Club of Chicago, and is active in various nonprofit organizations, including the United Way, Big Shoulders Fund and Chicago Urban League. He is currently on the boards of the Museum of Science and Industry, Northwestern Memorial HealthCare and Metropolitan Family Services in Chicago and the Jackie Robinson Foundation in New York.

Spruell, who grew up in Cleveland, earned a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering and an MBA in finance from the University of Notre Dame. He was an offensive lineman and co-captain of the Fighting Irish's football team and currently serves on the University's Board of Trustees. Spruell met his wife, Sedra, at Notre Dame. They have a son, Devyn, and a daughter, Aleah.

Joe Borgia
Senior Vice President, Referee Operations
National Basketball Association

Joe Borgia has worked in Basketball and Referee Operations at the NBA since 1999.

For the last five seasons, he was the main point of contact for the NBA Replay Center. This season, he is refocusing his efforts on the newly created Coach's Challenge.

As he did with the Replay Center, Borgia developed the rules and handles the execution for the Coach's Challenge, which was approved by the NBA Board of Governors on July 9, 2019, for use during the 2019-20 season.

Borgia was the league's Director of Referee Development and Director of Officiating Programs and Development before being named Vice President in 2008. His Referee Operations duties have included creating training videos and interpreting the rules of the game for officials, teams, broadcasters and media.

Borgia began his professional officiating career in 1978 at age 22, when he joined the staff of the New York Pro-Am league. He spent eight years in the Continental Basketball Association before being hired to the NBA staff in 1988. He officiated 10 seasons before an injury forced him to retire in 1998.

Borgia worked two of the most famous games in NBA history: the highest-scoring game (Detroit Pistons at Denver Nuggets, 186-184 on Dec. 13, 1983) and the longest modern-day game (Seattle SuperSonics at Milwaukee Bucks, which lasted five overtimes, on Nov. 9, 1989).

Borgia is the son of the late Sid Borgia, a legendary referee who officiated in the NBA for 20 years beginning in 1946. Sid Borgia also served as supervisor of officials during the latter years of his career.

Borgia resides in New Jersey and St. Pete Beach, Fla. He and his wife, Linda, have a daughter, Marisa, and a son, Matthew.

Monty McCutchen

Vice President, Head of Referee Development and Training
National Basketball Association

Monty McCutchen oversees the day-to-day management and on-court performance of all officials in the NBA officiating program, which services the NBA, WNBA and NBA G League.

McCutchen assumed his current position in December 2017 after spending 25 seasons as an NBA official. One of the league's highest-rated and most respected referees, McCutchen officiated more than 1,400 regular-season games and 169 playoff games. He refereed 16 games in the NBA Finals, most recently working Game 3 of the 2017 championship series between the Cleveland Cavaliers and Golden State Warriors.

Before joining the NBA, McCutchen served as a referee in the Continental Basketball Association for four seasons. He officiated playoff games all four years, including the CBA Finals in his last three seasons.

A native of San Angelo, Texas, McCutchen earned a bachelor's degree in English Literature and Speech Communication from the University of Texas at Arlington. McCutchen and his wife have a son and a daughter.

Jason Phillips
Replay Center Operations Principal
National Basketball Association

Jason Phillips is in his first season as NBA Replay Center Operations Principal after a 19-year career as an NBA referee.

In his new role, Phillips is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the NBA Replay Center. His Referee Operations duties include creating training videos and interpreting the rules of the game for officials, teams, broadcasters and media.

Phillips officiated 1,133 regular-season games as an NBA official. He also worked 104 playoff games, including nine Finals games. He finished his on-court career officiating Games 1 and 5 of the 2019 NBA Finals between the Golden State Warriors and the Toronto Raptors.

He considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be his first game as a full-time NBA official: Orlando Magic vs. Philadelphia 76ers on Nov. 3, 2000.

Phillips officiated three seasons in the WNBA, six seasons in the Continental Basketball Association and five years at the high school level in his home state of Texas.

He earned a bachelor's degree in Business Administration at Tarleton State University. Phillips played varsity basketball, golf and baseball at Cisco High School in Texas.

Phillips and his wife have three sons. He enjoys DIY projects around the house and playing golf.

Mike Callahan

NBA G League Training and Development Lead
National Basketball Association

Mike Callahan is in his first season as NBA G League Training and Development Lead after a 29-year career as an NBA referee.

In his new role, Callahan is responsible for the implementation, development and execution of the NBA G League referee educational curriculum. He also oversees NBA G League referee staff evaluation and development, including the transition of top candidates to the WNBA and NBA.

Callahan officiated 1,626 regular-season games as an NBA official. He also worked 225 playoff games, including 21 Finals games. He finished his on-court career officiating Game 4 of the 2019 NBA Finals between the Golden State Warriors and the Toronto Raptors. Before joining the NBA, Callahan spent three years officiating in the Continental Basketball Association.

Known as "Duke," the Philadelphia-born Callahan's most memorable NBA assignment came in 1990, when he officiated a game at the Spectrum in Philadelphia for the first time.

Callahan helps run the Next Level Referee Training camp, which is held at Villanova University. All proceeds from the camp go to local charities.

A member of the Cardinal O'Hara High School basketball team for four years, Callahan coached the freshman basketball team after graduating.

Callahan enjoys playing golf during his free time.

George Toliver

Associate Vice President, Referee Operations
National Basketball Association

George Toliver has been a member of the NBA's Referee Operations department since 2004. In his current role, Toliver oversees the implementation of programs designed to identify new officials for the NBA's developmental pipeline.

Toliver officiated 742 regular-season games in 15 seasons as an NBA official. In addition, Toliver was a FIBA official from 1985-2000, with assignments that included the 1995 European Championships and the 1994 FIBA Basketball World Cup.

His officiating experience also includes a stint in the Chinese Basketball Association, one year with the United States Basketball League, six years of college basketball and 11 years of high school basketball. He has also conducted clinics in Germany, Greece, Spain, Taiwan, Turkey and Poland.

Toliver earned a bachelor's degree in Social Science and a master's degree in Education from James Madison University. He played four seasons of basketball for JMU and was the team MVP in 1971 and 1972. Toliver was an instructor at JMU, in addition to being the assistant baseball coach from 1973-74 and assistant basketball coach from 1973-75. He was inducted into the James Madison University Hall of Fame in 1991.

Toliver played four years of high school basketball at King George High School in Virginia, earning All-State honors and playing the state championship game in 1969. He was inducted into the King George Sports Hall of Fame in 2012.

Toliver founded and served as general manager of the Harrisonburg (Va.) HEAT Girls Basketball Club, which helped develop skills for girls ages 6-17.

His daughter, Washington Mystics guard Kristi Toliver, is a three-time WNBA All-Star and two-time WNBA champion.

Mark Wunderlich

Associate Vice President, Referee Operations
National Basketball Association

Mark Wunderlich is in his sixth season as a member of the NBA's Referee Development and Performance group.

He was an NBA official from 1999-2010, working 1,100 regular-season games and 80 playoff games, including two Finals games. He also officiated two NBA All-Star Games.

Before joining the NBA, Wunderlich was an official in the Continental Basketball Association from 1997-1999.

Wunderlich was inducted into the Delaware County Chapter of the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame in 2015.

Bernie Fryer

Referee Performance & Development Advisor
National Basketball Association

Bernie Fryer is in his 46th year in the NBA and his fifth as a member of the Referee Development and Performance group.

Fryer began his professional officiating career in the Los Angeles Summer League in 1976 and was hired by the NBA in 1977, becoming one of the first former players to serve as an NBA official. He officiated 1,649 regular-season games and 145 playoff games, including 11 Finals games. He also worked the 1998 All-Star Game as well as games in Japan, Russia and Germany.

In addition to his officiating experience, Fryer has served as NBA Vice President and Director of Officials; NBA Assistant Director of Officials and Crew Chief Coordinator; and Referee Development and Performance Adviser.

Fryer was selected by the Phoenix Suns in the seventh round of the 1972 NBA Draft. He never played for the Suns, however, making his NBA debut with the Portland Trail Blazers in 1973. He played 80 games for the Trail Blazers during the 1973–74 season and was named to the All-Rookie Second Team after averaging 7.0 points and 3.5 assists per game. The following season, he split time between the NBA's New Orleans Jazz and the ABA's Spirits of St. Louis before retiring in 1975.

Over his playing career, he averaged 6.3 points, 3.0 assists and 1.8 rebounds with the Trail Blazers and Jazz in the NBA and 7.8 points, 2.9 assists and 2.4 rebounds in nine games for the Spirits in the ABA.

Fryer is from Port Angeles, Wash., where he was a high school All-American in both football and basketball. He attended Peninsula Junior College and Brigham Young University before joining the NBA.

In 2019, Fryer was inducted into the Washington State Sports Hall of Fame. He is a licensed instrument pilot and a certified diver and boat captain.

Eddie F. Rush

Referee Development Performance Advisor
National Basketball Association

Eddie F. Rush is in his fifth season as a member of the Referee Development and Performance group.

In 28 seasons as an NBA referee, Rush officiated 1,567 regular-season games and 206 playoff games, including 13 Finals games. He also worked the 2000 and 2008 NBA All-Star Games.

As a FIBA official for 12 years, his assignments included two FIBA Basketball World Cups (2002 in Indiana and 2006 in Japan). He was selected to work the bronze-medal game during the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing. Rush also has four years of officiating experiencing in both the Continental Basketball Association and the collegiate ranks.

Rush holds a bachelor's degree in Marketing from Georgia State University, where he played basketball for two seasons. After graduating, Rush worked for three years in the financial planning services industry as a licensed representative with the investment firm Waddell & Reed.

Rush is the owner of the Atlanta-based company Twilight Productions 2, which promotes concerts and comedy shows.

Bennett Salvatore

Referee Development Performance Advisor
National Basketball Association

Bennett Salvatore is in his sixth season as a member of the Referee Development and Performance group.

Salvatore officiated 1,805 regular-season games in 33 seasons as an NBA official. He also refereed 238 playoff games, including 25 Finals games. His assignments included the 1993 and 2002 NBA All-Star Games and the 1993 McDonald's Championship in Germany.

Before joining the NBA, Salvatore officiated for two years in the Continental Basketball Association and 10 years at the high school level.

Salvatore played baseball while attending C.W. Post. He was an All-County high school baseball player and All-State football player at Stamford Catholic High School in Connecticut. He also played basketball for three years.

In 2014, Salvatore was honored by the Fairfield County American Cancer Society as Philanthropist of the Year. He is a founding member of the Mickey Lione Jr. Fund, which awards scholarships to high school athletes and supports youth sports in Stamford.

Salvatore is also a motivational speaker for many organizations.

Joe Crawford

Referee Development Performance Advisor
National Basketball Association

Joey Crawford is in his fifth season as a member of the Referee Development and Performance group.

Crawford was an NBA official for 39 years, officiating 2,556 regular-season games and 374 playoff games, including 50 Finals games. He worked the 1986, 1992 and 2000 NBA All-Star Games as well as the 1993 McDonald's Championship in Germany.

Before joining the NBA, Crawford officiated in the Eastern Basketball Association (which became the CBA) and at the high school level in Pennsylvania.

Crawford graduated from Cardinal O'Hara High School in Springfield, Pa., and is a member of the school's Hall of Fame. In 2008, Crawford earned a degree in Liberal Studies from Neumann College.

His late father, Shag, and his brother, Jerry, were both longtime Major League Baseball umpires.

Pete Williams
Replay Operations Lead
National Basketball Association

Pete Williams is in his sixth season as a member of the Referee Operations department.

In his role as NBA Replay Operations Lead, Williams collaborates with on-court and Replay Center referees during replay situations to ensure that reviews are fast and efficient. Williams also creates training curricula, establishes protocol and assigns nightly game responsibilities for all Replay Center personnel.

Before joining the NBA in 2014, Williams was the General Manager and an advanced scout for Hoop1 Video, a renowned national basketball content provider. He spent six years (2004-10) working as a video coordinator for the then-New Jersey Nets. Williams also worked as a scout for the then-Charlotte Bobcats (2010-14).

Williams is a graduate of Fairfield University, where he played on the 1997 MAAC Championship basketball team. He lives in Jersey City, N.J., with his wife, Jessica, son, Preston, and two daughters, Rory and Lilliana.

Gary Zielinski

Director, Amateur Officiating Development
National Basketball Association

Gary Zielinski is in his first season as Director, Amateur Officiating Development after an 18-year career as an NBA referee.

In his new role, Zielinski provides guidance and training regarding playing rules and officiating career opportunities to amateur players, coaches and officials, with a specific focus on youth. He creates and implements youth officiating development curriculum based on the NBA's officiating program and Jr. NBA's educational initiatives. In addition, Zielinski conducts clinics and camps and identify candidates for introduction into the referee scouting pipeline.

Zielinski officiated 1,023 regular-season games and 18 playoff games as an NBA official. He also worked the 2018 NBA All-Star Game in Los Angeles.

Zielinski officiated for seven seasons in the CBA and four seasons in the WNBA. He refereed the Finals in both leagues.

2019-20 NBA OFFICIATING STAFF

2019-20 NBA OFFICIATING STAFF

3 Nick Buchert
4 Sean Wright
5 Kane Fitzgerald
6 Tony Brown
7 Lauren Holtkamp-Sterling
8 Marc Davis
9 Natalie Sago
11 Derrick Collins
12 CJ Washington
13 Ashley Moyer-Gleich
14 Ed Malloy
15 Zach Zarba
16 David Guthrie
17 Jonathan Sterling
18 Matt Boland
19 James Capers
20 Leroy Richardson
21 Dedric Taylor
22 Bill Spooner
23 Tre Maddox
24 Kevin Scott
25 Tony Brothers
26 Pat Fraher
27 Mitchell Ervin
28 Mousa Dagher
29 Mark Lindsay
30 John Goble
31 Scott Wall
32 Marat Kogut
33 Sean Corbin
34 Kevin Cutler
35 Jason Goldenberg
36 Brent Barnaky
37 Eric Dalen
38 Michael Smith
39 Tyler Ford
40 Leon Wood
41 Ken Mauer
42 Eric Lewis
43 Matt Myers
44 Brett Nansel
45 Brian Forte
46 Ben Taylor
47 Bennie Adams
48 Scott Foster
49 Tom Washington
50 Gediminas Petraitis
51 Aaron Smith
52 Scott Twardoski
53 John Butler
54 Ray Acosta
55 Bill Kennedy
56 Mark Ayotte
58 Josh Tiven
60 James Williams
61 Courtney Kirkland
62 JB DeRosa
63 Derek Richardson
64 Justin Van Duyne
65 Nate Green
66 Haywoode Workman
67 Brandon Adair
68 Jacyn Goble
70 Phenizee Ransom
71 Rodney Mott
72 J.T. Orr
74 Curtis Blair
77 Karl Lane
78 Evan Scott
84 Jenna Schroeder

Non-Staff Officials
79 John Conley
80 Kevin Fahy
81 Simone Jelks
82 Suyash Mehta
83 Andy Nagy

Pronunciation Guide
Brandon Adair (UH-dare)
Mark Ayotte (EYE-it)
Brent Barnaky (barn-UH-key)
Nick Buchert (BOOK-ert)
Mousa Dagher (MOOSE-ah Dagger)
Eric Dalen (DAY-len)
Kevin Fahy (FAY-ee)
Brian Forte (for-TAY)
Pat Fraher (FRAY-er)
Jacyn Goble (JAY-sin go-BULL)
John Goble (go-BULL)
Marat Kogut (MAH-rot co-GUT)
Suyash (Sue-YAHSH) Mehta
Ashley Moyer-Gleich (gleash)
Brett Nansel (nan-SUL)
Gediminas Petraitis (get-AH-min-iss puh-TRY-tis)
Phenizee (FEN-uh-ZEE) Ransom
Natalie Sago (SAY-go)
Jenna Schroeder (shROW-der)
Scott Twardoski (twar-DAH-ski)
Justin Van Duyne (van-DINE)

2019-20 NBA OFFICIALS PROFILES

RAY ACOSTA #54

NBA Experience: 3rd season
Born: December 12, 1983 (Elizabeth, N.J.)
Resides: Lake Worth, Fla.
High School: Lake Worth (Lake Worth, Fla.)
College: University of Central Florida ’07

Ray Acosta has officiated 92 games in two seasons as an NBA official.

Acosta spent six years as an NBA G League referee, working the All-Star Game and Finals in 2017.

He has 12 years of collegiate officiating experience, with stints in Conference USA as well as the Sun Belt, Southern, American Athletic, Atlantic Sun, Mid-Eastern Athletic and Big South conferences. Acosta officiated in the NCAA Tournament in 2016 and 2017.

Off the court, Acosta enjoys working out, traveling, going to the movies and attending concerts.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: The Sopranos

Favorite Movie: Scarface

Favorite Musician: Michael Jackson

Favorite Book: Rich Dad Poor Dad

Favorite Meal: Anything Italian

Favorite App: Netflix

Would Most Like To Visit: Fiji

Bucket List: Be in shark tank surrounded by great white sharks in Australia

Hidden Talent: Dancing

BRANDON ADAIR #67

NBA Experience: 2nd season
Born: September 14, 1985 (Norfolk, Va.)
Resides: Virginia Beach, Va.
High School: Princess Anne (Virginia Beach, Va.)
College: Virginia Wesleyan University

Brandon Adair (UH-dare) is in his second season as an NBA official. He refereed 44 games in 2018-19 in his first season on staff.

Adair has four years of officiating experience in both the NBA G League and the collegiate ranks, with stints in the Big South, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association and Old Dominion Athletic conferences. He was also a high school referee in his home state of Virginia for seven years.

A standout basketball player at Princess Anne High School in Virginia Beach, Va., Adair went on to play in college at Virginia Wesleyan and professionally for two seasons in Germany.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air

Favorite Movie: The Pursuit of Happyness

Favorite Musician: Charlie Wilson

Favorite Book: David Baldacci books

Favorite Meal: Surf and turf

Favorite App: TripCase

Would Most Like To Visit: Rome

Bucket List: Sky diving

Adair works with the Big Brother program at Bayside Elementary School in Virginia Beach, Va.

BENNIE ADAMS #47

NBA Experience: 25th season
Born: April 8, 1967 (New Orleans, La.)
Resides: New Orleans, La.
High School: Eleanor McMain (New Orleans, La.)
College: Southern University '90; M.S. '93

Bennie Adams has officiated 1,303 regular-season games and 20 playoff games in 24 seasons as an NBA official. Adams officiated the 2015 NBA Mexico City Game, the 2011 NBA All-Star Game in Los Angeles and the 2008 NBA Europe Live Tour. He was also a USA Basketball official from 1995-2005.

He considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be a regular-season game between the Houston Rockets and the Los Angeles Lakers on April 10, 2018. In that game, 32-year-old Lakers rookie Andre Ingram scored 19 points in his NBA debut after spending a decade in the NBA G League.

Adams officiated in the Continental Basketball Association for three years. He has three years of collegiate officiating experience in the Southeastern, Ohio Valley, Atlantic Sun and Southwestern Athletic conferences, and 10 years of high school officiating experience in Louisiana.

The New Orleans native has both a bachelor's and master's degree in Mathematics from Southern University. He is a former math instructor at Southern.

Adams and fellow NBA official Mitchell Ervin both attended high school at Eleanor McMain in New Orleans.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Law & Order

Favorite Movie: Forget Paris

Favorite Musician: Prince

Favorite Book: Number: The Language of Science

Favorite Meal: Fried Louisiana shrimp & catfish and red beans & rice

Would Most Like To Visit: A remote tropical island with wifi for only 1 hour daily

Bucket List: Move to that island

Hidden Talent: Cooking

MARK AYOTTE #56

NBA Experience: 16th season
Born: March 12, 1964 (Ishpeming, Mich.)
Resides: Glendale, Ariz.
High School: Negaunee (Negaunee, Mich.)
College: Michigan Technological University '87

Mark Ayotte (EYE-it) has officiated 900 regular-season games and eight playoff games in 15 seasons as an NBA official.

Before joining the NBA, Ayotte was a WNBA official for four years and a Continental Basketball Association official for three years. He also spent one year officiating in the NBA G League.

Ayotte has 12 years of collegiate officiating experience, having worked in the Pac-12, Big Sky and West Coast conferences. He officiated in the Pac-12 Tournament and the Big Sky Tournament, including the finals. Ayotte also was an official for the preseason and postseason NIT. He has 10 years of high school officiating experience in Arizona.

FUN FACTS

Favorite Movie: The Godfather

Favorite Musician: The Eagles

Favorite Book: Into Thin Air

Favorite Meal: Filet mignon

Favorite App: Trailforks

Would Most Like To Visit: Yellowstone National Park

Bucket List: American safari

Hidden Talent: Elk calling

Ayotte previously worked as a Systems Design and Test Engineer with AG Communication Systems. He enjoys spending time with his fellow Yoopers in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

BRENT BARNAKY #36

NBA Experience: 10th season
Born: May 30, 1975 (Hamilton, Ohio)
Resides: Clearwater, Fla.
High School: Clearwater (Clearwater, Fla.)
College: University of Central Florida '97;
Shepard Broad College of Law '01

Brent Barnaky (barn-UH-key) has officiated 522 regular-season games and four playoff games in nine seasons as an NBA official. Barnaky was a member of the crews that refereed NBA games in London and Rio De Janiero in 2014 and in Mexico City in 2018. He also worked the 2014 Rising Stars during NBA All-Star in New Orleans.

Barnaky considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be a game between the Los Angeles Lakers and the Minnesota Timberwolves on Dec. 14, 2014, when Kobe Bryant passed Michael Jordan on the all-time scoring list.

Barnaky came to the NBA with 10 years of collegiate officiating experience in several major conferences, including the SEC, Big East and Conference USA. He officiated the NBA G League playoffs from 2008-10 and the NBA G League Finals in 2009 and 2010.

Before being hired to the NBA officiating staff, Barnaky was a civil trial lawyer. He remains involved in pro bono work for public-at-large clients in need of legal services.

Barnaky and his wife have three children.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Designated Survivor

Favorite Movie: For Love of the Game

Favorite Musician: Chris Botti

Favorite Book: Ego Is the Enemy

Favorite Meal: Chicken parmesan

Favorite App: FaceTime

Would Most Like To Visit: Italy

Bucket List: Great Barrier Reef scuba dive

CURTIS BLAIR #74

NBA Experience: 12th season
Born: September 24, 1970 (Roanoke, Va.)
Resides: Richmond, Va.
High School: Patrick Henry (Roanoke, Va.)
College: University of Richmond '92

Curtis Blair has officiated 602 regular-season games and one playoff game in 11 seasons as an NBA official. He made his playoff debut as an NBA referee in 2019 and also worked the 2019 NBA All-Star Game in Charlotte.

Blair has six seasons of NBA G League experience and refereed the 2008 NBA G League Finals. He also officiated in several collegiate conferences, including the ACC, Atlantic 10 and Colonial Athletic Association.

The Virginia native graduated with a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Richmond, where he was a member of the 1991 basketball team that upset second-seeded Syracuse in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

Blair was selected by the Houston Rockets in the second round of the 1992 NBA Draft. He played professionally in Australia, Austria and Turkey.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Dexter

Favorite Movie: Grease

Favorite Musician: K-Ci & JoJo

Favorite Meal: Lamb curry

Would Most Like To Visit: Brazil

Hidden Talent: Tennis

MATT BOLAND #18

NBA Experience: 17th season
Born: September 28, 1966 (Putnam, Conn.)
Resides: Manchester, Conn.
High School: Marianapolis Prep (Thompson, Conn.)
College: Quinebaug Valley '90

Matt Boland has officiated 934 regular-season games and one playoff game in 16 seasons as an NBA official. He also worked the 2016 NBA All-Star Game in Toronto.

Before joining the NBA, Boland officiated two years in the NBA G League, five years in the WNBA and seven years in the Continental Basketball Association. He refereed the Finals in all three leagues. Boland also has five years of officiating experience in the United States Basketball League.

Boland officiated at the collegiate level for four years, working in the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference, Ivy League and Ohio Valley Conference, among others. He also has high school officiating experience in his home state of Connecticut, where he refereed state finals games in 1997 and 1998.

Boland served in the Connecticut National Guard from 1987-95. He was commissioned 2nd Lieutenant in 1990 before being promoted to 1st Lieutenant in 1992.

An accomplished golfer, Boland has competed in several PGA of America events and worked as a PGA professional.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Seinfeld

Favorite Movie: Tin Cup

Favorite Musician: Tom Petty

Favorite Book: High Performance Habits

Favorite Meal: Pizza

Favorite App: Dark Sky

Would Most Like To Visit: Scotland

Bucket List: Play golf at Augusta National

TONY BROTHERS #25

NBA Experience: 26th season
Born: September 14, 1964 (Norfolk, Va.)
Resides: Smithfield, Va.
High School: Booker T. Washington (Norfolk, Va.)
College: Old Dominion University '86

Tony Brothers has officiated 1,466 regular-season games in 25 seasons as an NBA official. He has also refereed 140 playoff games, including nine Finals games. Brothers' assignments have also included the 1999 McDonald's Championship in Italy and the 2008 China Games.

Brothers considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be his first NBA Finals: Game 2 of the 2012 Finals between the Miami Heat and the Oklahoma City Thunder.

Before joining the NBA, Brothers spent four years officiating in the Continental Basketball Association, including three Finals and an All-Star Game. Brothers also has seven years of high school officiating experience in his home state of Virginia and one year of service at the junior college level.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: 24

Favorite Movie: Claudine

Favorite Musician: Earth, Wind & Fire

Favorite Book: The Bible

Favorite Meal: Fried croakers

Favorite App: Spotify

Would Most Like To Visit: Israel

Hidden Talent: Cooking

To honor his late mother, Dorothy Brothers, a former Bank of America executive, Brothers and his wife co-founded the Still Hope Foundation, which seeks to assist single mothers in building a strong, successful family unit by offering quality resources and supportive relationships.

Brothers attended Old Dominion University, where he earned a bachelor's degree in Business Administration and Management Information Systems.

TONY BROWN #6

NBA Experience: 18th season
Born: January 4, 1967 (Marianna, Fla.)
Resides: Atlanta, Ga.
High School: Amos P. Godby (Tallahassee, Fla.)
College: Clark Atlanta University '89

Tony Brown has officiated 1,016 regular-season games and 25 playoff games in 17 seasons as an NBA official. He also refereed the 2018 NBA All-Star Game in Los Angeles.

Before joining the NBA, Brown worked four seasons in both the NBA G League and the Continental Basketball Association and three seasons in the WNBA. During that time, he officiated the 2002 WNBA Finals, the 2002 WNBA All-Star Game and the 2001 CBA Finals.

Brown attended Florida A&M University before transferring to Clark Atlanta University, where he received a bachelor's degree in Finance. In high school, Brown earned All-State basketball honors at Amos P. Godby in Tallahassee, Fla.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Sanford and Son

Favorite Movie: Training Day

Favorite Musician: Michael Jackson

Favorite Book: The Price of the Ticket

Would Most Like To Visit: Biyadhoo in the Maldives

Hidden Talent: Scuba diving

NICK BUCHERT #3

NBA Experience: 10th season
Born: April 17, 1983 (Orlando, Fla.)
Resides: Highland Park, Ill.
High School: University (Orlando, Fla.)
College: University of Phoenix

Nick Buchert (BOOK-ert) has officiated 519 regular-season games and three playoff games in nine seasons as an NBA official. He also refereed the 2014 Rising Stars during NBA All-Star in New Orleans.

Buchert has nine years of collegiate officiating experience and four years in the NBA G League. He officiated the 2010 NBA G League Finals and the 2010 NBA G League All-Star Game.

Buchert enjoys traveling, cooking, collecting wine, working out and biking. He is also involved in the March of Dimes Chicago.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Game of Thrones and Walking Dead

Favorite Movie: Gladiator

Favorite Musician: David Gray

Favorite Book: October Sky

Favorite Meal: Steak

Favorite App: Bandsintown

Would Most Like To Visit: Rome

Bucket List: Attend Super Bowl

JOHN BUTLER #53

NBA Experience: 1st season
Born: August 20, 1986 (Biloxi, Miss.)
Resides: La Mesa, Calif.
High School: San Diego (San Diego, Calif.)
College: Vanguard University

John Butler is in his first season as a full-time NBA official. He refereed nine regular-season games as a non-staff official during the 2018-19 NBA season.

Butler officiated five seasons in the NBA G League and two seasons in the WNBA. In the NBA G League, he worked the playoffs from 2015-19 and the Finals in 2018 and 2019.

Butler has four years of collegiate officiating experience in the Big West, West Coast and Pac West conferences. He also has three years of high school officiating experience in California.

His interests include traveling, fitness, movies, music and sports.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Suits

Favorite Movie: Do the Right Thing

Favorite Musician: Jay-Z

Favorite Book: Black Boy

Favorite Meal: Red beans and rice

Favorite App: The Bible

Would Most Like To Visit: Greece

JAMES CAPERS #19

NBA Experience: 25th season
Born: November 8, 1961 (Chicago, Ill.)
Resides: Chicago, Ill.
High School: Hales Franciscan (Chicago, Ill.)
College: Northern Illinois University '84

James Capers has officiated 1,357 regular-season games in 24 seasons as an NBA official. He has also worked 135 playoff games, including 10 Finals games. Capers officiated the 2018 NBA All-Star Game in Los Angeles.

Capers considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be his first NBA Finals: Game 3 of the 2012 Finals between the Miami Heat and the Oklahoma City Thunder.

In addition to his NBA experience, Capers spent six years as a referee in the Continental Basketball Association. He officiated three CBA Finals and two CBA All-Star Games.

Capers is the son of former NBA official James Capers Sr.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Black-ish

Favorite Movie: Malcolm X

Favorite Musician: Jill Scott

Favorite Book: The Shack

Favorite Meal: Summer BBQ with ribs, potato salad, corn on the cob and baked beans

Favorite App: Pandora

Bucket List: See Colosseum in Rome

Hidden Talent: Bid whist

DERRICK COLLINS #11

NBA Experience: 19th season
Born: July 15, 1965 (New Orleans, La.)
Resides: Slidell, La.
High School: Brother Martin (New Orleans, La.)
College: Xavier University of Louisiana '88

Derrick Collins has officiated 1,110 regular-season games and 30 playoff games in 18 seasons as an NBA official.

Before joining the NBA, Collins officiated five seasons in the Continental Basketball Association and three seasons in the WNBA, working the Finals in both leagues.

He has seven years of collegiate officiating experience in various conferences, including the SEC, Big 12, Conference USA, Sun Belt, Southland and SWAC. Collins also officiated at the high school level in his home state of Louisiana.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Martin

Favorite Movie: Glory

Favorite Musician: Bob Marley

Favorite Book: The Bible

Favorite Meal: Gumbo

Would Most Like To Visit: Africa

Bucket List: Fly an airplane

Collins was a member of the Xavier University of Louisiana basketball team for four seasons, earning Honorable Mention All-American honors. He holds a bachelor's degree in Mass Communications.

Collins enjoys fishing, horseback riding, pool, weight training, bowling and golf.

SEAN CORBIN #33

NBA Experience: 25th season
Born: March 18, 1966 (Baltimore, Md.)
Resides: Windermere, Fla.
High School: Towson Catholic (Towson, Md.)
College: Coppin State University '90

Sean Corbin has officiated 1,331 regular-season games and 79 playoff games in 24 seasons as an NBA official. He also refereed the 2007 NBA All-Star Game in Las Vegas. Corbin officiated at the 2004 Summer Olympics in Athens.

He considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be a triple-overtime game between the Boston Celtics and the Vancouver Grizzlies on Feb. 17, 1999.

Corbin officiated four years in the Continental Basketball Association and nine years in the collegiate ranks, with stints in the Big East, Southern, Southeastern, Mid-Eastern Athletic and Metro Atlantic Athletic conferences. He also has four years of high school officiating experience.

The Baltimore native played baseball and basketball at Coppin State University and Towson Catholic High School.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: CSI: Miami

Favorite Movie: The Godfather and The Godfather Part II

Favorite Musician: Brian Culbertson

Favorite Book: Quiet Strength

Favorite Meal: Steak and lobster

Favorite App: News

Would Most Like To Visit: Johannesburg

Bucket List: Drive cross country in RV

Hidden Talent: Cooking

KEVIN CUTLER #34

NBA Experience: 10th season
Born: August 8, 1968 (Los Angeles, Calif.)
Resides: Lakewood, Calif.
High School: Ganesha (Pomona, Calif.)
College: Cal State Long Beach '99;
M.S. at Cal State Dominguez Hills '05

Kevin Cutler has officiated 499 regular-season games and three playoff games in nine seasons as an NBA official.

He considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be his first playoff game: Houston Rockets vs. the Minnesota Timberwolves in a first-round series on April 21, 2018.

Cutler refereed for six seasons in the NBA G League, working two Finals series and the 2018 All-Star Game. He also spent six years as a college basketball official, including assignments in the 2009 NIT and the 2010 NCAA Tournament.

Cutler enjoys golfing, reading and spending time with family.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Homicide: Life on the Street

Favorite Musician: Luther Vandross

Favorite Book: Giant Steps

Favorite Meal: Chicken

Would Most Like To Visit: Africa

Bucket List: Play 20 of the top 100 U.S. golf courses

Hidden Talent: Playing the trumpet

MOUSA DAGHER #28

NBA Experience: 2nd season
Born: March 4, 1991 (Homs, Syria)
Resides: Las Vegas, Nev.
High School: Burbank (Burbank, Calif.)
College: Glendale Community College ’13

Mousa Dagher (MOOSE-ah Dagger) is in his second season as an NBA official. He worked 33 regular-season games in his first season on staff in 2018-19.

Dagher officiated three seasons in the NBA G League. He also has six years of collegiate officiating experience, with stints in the WAC, Big West and Big Sky conferences.

A Syrian native, Dagher moved to the United States in 2006 at age 15. He is former owner of the Brewberry Cafe in Anaheim, Calif. Dagher enjoys playing the piano, hiking, traveling and spending time with family.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Bar Rescue

Favorite Movie: Coach Carter

Favorite Musician: DJ Khaled

Favorite Book: Rich Dad, Poor Dad

Favorite Meal: Sushi

Favorite App: Robinhood

Would Most Like To Visit: Thailand

Bucket List: Go zip lining in Dubai

Hidden Talent: Playing the piano

ERIC DALEN #37

NBA Experience: 12th season
Born: July 12, 1972 (Minnetonka, Minn.)
Resides: Cincinnati, Ohio
High School: Minnetonka (Minnetonka, Minn.)
College: University of Minnesota

Eric Dalen (DAY-len) has officiated 572 regular-season games in 11 seasons as an NBA official.

He considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be his first game as a full-time staff official: Los Angeles Lakers at Denver Nuggets on Nov. 1, 2008.

Before joining the NBA, Dalen worked five seasons in the NBA G League. In 2008, Dalen officiated the NBA G League All-Star Game and the NBA G League Finals. He refereed three years at the collegiate level in the SEC.

Dalen was a two-year football letter-winner at the University of Minnesota, where he played tight end.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: NCIS

Favorite Movie: We Were Soldiers

Favorite Musician: Zac Brown

Favorite Meal: Chili

Favorite App: Netflix

Would Most Like To Visit: Cruise around the world

Bucket List: Take a ride in a fighter jet

MARC DAVIS #8

NBA Experience: 22nd season
Born: December 13, 1967 (Chicago, Ill.)
Resides: Chicago, Ill.
High School: St. Ignatius Prep (Chicago, Ill.)
College: U.S. Naval Academy

Marc Davis has officiated 1,279 regular-season games in 21 seasons as an NBA official. He has worked 132 playoff games, including 12 Finals games. He also officiated the 2014 NBA All-Star Game in New Orleans.

In addition to his NBA service, Davis has three years of officiating experience in both the Continental Basketball Association and at the collegiate level.

In 2012, the Chicago native was recognized by the Chicago Public League Coaches Association with induction into the Chicago Public League Hall of Fame.

Davis is an avid outdoorsman.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: The Wire

Favorite Movie: Glory

Favorite Musician: John Coltrane

Favorite Book: Lonesome Dove

Favorite Meal: Fried chicken

Favorite App: Cisco AnyConnect

Would Most Like To Visit: Venice

Bucket List: Fly a helicopter along the Chicago River

JB DEROSA #62

NBA Experience: 3rd season
Born: April 14, 1991 (Paducah, Ky.)
Resides: Canton, Ohio
High School: Glen Oak (Canton, Ohio)
College: Malone University '13

JB DeRosa has officiated 92 regular-season games in two seasons as an NBA official.

DeRosa spent five years as an NBA G League referee, working the Finals in 2016 and 2017.

DeRosa has extensive collegiate officiating experience. He officiated men's basketball from 2014-17, including assignments in the SEC and Conference USA. DeRosa also officiated women's basketball from 2009-13, including stints in the Big East and Atlantic 10 conferences.

The son of former NBA official Joe DeRosa, JB started refereeing in local CYO and recreational leagues in the Canton, Ohio, area at age 13. JB excelled in track and field in high school and college.

During the offseason, he enjoys playing golf and traveling with his wife.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: The Big Bang Theory

Favorite Movie: Kingsman series

Favorite Musician: Kenny Chesney

Favorite Meal: Salmon and risotto

Would Most Like To Visit: Jost Van Dyke in Virgin Islands

Bucket List: Play golf at Pebble Beach

Hidden Talent: Cooking

MITCHELL ERVIN #27

NBA Experience: 5th season
Born: November 20, 1979 (New Orleans, La.)
Resides: New Orleans, La.
High School: Eleanor McMain (New Orleans, La.)
College: University of New Orleans '02

Mitchell Ervin has officiated 198 regular-season games in four seasons as an NBA official.

Ervin considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be his first game as a full-time NBA official, when the Golden State Warriors' Stephen Curry scored 53 points against the New Orleans Pelicans on Oct. 31, 2015. He also worked the 2019 Rising Stars at NBA All-Star in Charlotte.

Before joining the NBA, Ervin officiated in the NBA G League for four years, working the playoffs and Finals in 2014 and 2015. He refereed the 2014 NBA G League All-Star Game in his hometown of New Orleans.

His résumé includes eight years of collegiate officiating experience, with stints in the Big 12, Conference USA and other conferences. He has six years of high school officiating experience in New Orleans and Houston.

Ervin previously worked for the sports representation firm SportsWest Football. He also served as a middle school physical education teacher and a football, basketball and track coach.

Ervin graduated with a dual bachelor's degree in Sport Management and Exercise Physiology from the University of New Orleans, where he was a walk-on member of the 1997-98 basketball team and a member of the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity. In high school at Eleanor McMain (which fellow NBA official Bennie Adams also attended), Ervin was an All-District point guard who led his team to the 1997 state quarterfinals and earned All-State Academic Honorable Mention honors.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Power

Favorite Movie: Coming to America

Favorite Musician: Drake

Favorite Book: Think and Grow Rich

Favorite Meal: Gumbo

Favorite App: GroupMe

Would Most Like To Visit: Whitsunday Islands

Bucket List: Sky diving

KANE FITZGERALD #5

NBA Experience: 11th season
Born: February 15, 1981 (Dover, N.J.)
Resides: Toms River, N.J.
High School: Sparta (Sparta, N.J.)
College: Centenary University (Hackettstown, N.J.) '04

Kane Fitzgerald has officiated 635 regular-season games in 10 seasons as an NBA official. He has also worked 32 playoff games, including one Finals game.

He considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be his first NBA Finals: Game 3 of the 2019 Finals between the Golden State Warriors and the Toronto Raptors.

Before joining the NBA, Fitzgerald officiated in the NBA G League for four years and the WNBA for two years. He also refereed at the collegiate level for two years in the Ohio Valley, Atlantic Sun and Big South conferences.

Fitzgerald started officiating at the high school level in New Jersey at age 18.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Breaking Bad

Favorite Movie: Unforgiven

Favorite Musician: Bruce Springsteen

Favorite Book: Moby Dick

Favorite Meal: Spaghetti with meatballs

Favorite App: Pandora

Would Most Like To Visit: Alaska

Bucket List: U.S. road trip

Hidden Talent: Playing the piano

TYLER FORD #39

NBA Experience: 5th season
Born: June 8, 1985 (Lima, Ohio)
Resides: Lafayette, Ind.
High School: Allen East (Lafayette, Ohio)
College: Ball State University ’07; M.A. ’09

Tyler Ford has officiated 233 regular-season games and four playoff games in four seasons as an NBA official.

Ford considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be his first playoff game: the Philadelphia 76ers vs. the Brooklyn Nets in a first-round series on April 13, 2019.

Before joining the NBA officiating staff, Ford refereed five seasons in the NBA G League. He officiated the 2015 NBA G League Finals and the 2014 NBA G League All-Star Game.

Ford also spent four seasons officiating in the WNBA. He officiated Division I college basketball for three seasons in the Big Ten, Mid-American Conference and Summit League.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Homeland

Favorite Movie: Remember the Titans

Favorite Musician: Old Dominion

Favorite Book: Power of a Positive Team

Favorite Meal: Steak

Favorite App: Netflix

Would Most Like To Visit: Hawaii

Bucket List: Play golf at Augusta National

The Ohio native served as the Assistant Director of Intramural Sports at Purdue University from 2009-15. Ford holds both bachelor’s and master’s degrees in Sport Administration from Ball State University.

He enjoys playing golf in his free time.

BRIAN FORTE #45

NBA Experience: 13th season
Born: August 18, 1975 (Fairfax, Va.)
Resides: Smyrna, Ga.
High School: Westminster (Atlanta, Ga.)
College: Furman University '99

Brian Forte (for-TAY) has officiated 723 regular-season games and 20 playoff games in 12 seasons as an NBA official.

He considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be his first playoff game: the Brooklyn Nets against the Toronto Raptors in a first-round series on April 19, 2014.

Forte worked six seasons in the NBA G League, officiating two Finals series. He also officiated collegiately in the SEC and Southern Conference, refereeing the conference tournament in both leagues in 2007. That same year, he was selected to officiate the NCAA Tournament.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Breaking Bad

Favorite Movie: The Godfather Part II

Favorite Book: The Count of Monte Cristo

Favorite Meal: Sushi

Favorite App: Netflix

Would Most Like To Visit: Spain

The son of former NBA referee Joe Forte, Brian received a bachelor's degree in Computing and Business from Furman University. He previously worked as a computer programmer.

SCOTT FOSTER #48

NBA Experience: 26th season
Born: April 8, 1967 (Silver Spring, Md.)
Resides: Woodbine, Md.
High School: Magruder (Rockville, Md.)
College: University of Maryland '93

Scott Foster has officiated 1,477 regular-season games in 25 seasons as an NBA official. Foster has also refereed 187 playoff games, including 19 Finals games. He worked the 2010 NBA All-Star Game in Arlington, Texas, and the 2019 NBA All-Star Game in Charlotte.

Foster considers his memorable NBA assignment to be Game 7 of the 2010 NBA Finals between the Los Angeles Lakers and the Boston Celtics. He refereed the game with two of his mentors, Dan Crawford and Joey Crawford.

In addition to his NBA service, Foster has two years of Continental Basketball Association officiating experience, two years of collegiate officiating experience in the Southern and Big South conferences, and six years of high school officiating experience in Maryland.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Shameless and Ozark

Favorite Movie: Braveheart

Favorite Musician: Darius Rucker

Favorite Book: Golf Is Not a Game of Perfect

Favorite Meal: Maryland blue crabs and corn on the cob

Favorite App: PGA Tour Live

Would Most Like To Visit: Italy

Bucket List: Win gold at the U.S. Open Pickleball Championships

Hidden Talent: Body surfing

PAT FRAHER #26

NBA Experience: 19th season
Born: January 13, 1974 (St. Paul, Minn.)
Resides: Eagan, Minn.
High School: Hastings (Hastings, Minn.)
College: University of Minnesota ’97

Pat Fraher (FRAY-er) has officiated 1,106 regular-season games and 51 playoff games in 18 seasons as an NBA official. He also refereed the 2015 NBA All-Star Game in New York.

Before joining the NBA, Fraher officiated four years in the WNBA and seven years in the Continental Basketball Association.

Fraher has two years of collegiate officiating experience in the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference and 10 years of high school officiating experience in his home state of Minnesota.

He attended the University of Minnesota, where he was awarded the Evans Scholarship and graduated with a bachelor’s degree in Mechanical Engineering. At Hastings High School in Minnesota, Fraher was a member of the football, basketball and golf teams.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Game of Thrones

Favorite Movie: Caddyshack

Favorite Musician: Billy Joel

Favorite Book: Purpose Driven Life

Favorite Meal: BBQ

Favorite App: NBA (of course!)

Would Most Like To Visit: Italy

Bucket List: Play golf at Augusta National and Pebble Beach

Hidden Talent: Sleeping anywhere

JACYN GOBLE #68

NBA Experience: 4th season
Born: February 22, 1981 (Miami, Fla.)
Resides: Miami, Fla.
High School: Coral Park Senior (Miami, Fla.)
College: Miami Dade Community College; Florida International University

Jacyn Goble (JAY-sin go-BULL) has officiated 129 regular-season games in three seasons as an NBA official. He has also refereed 13 regular-season NBA games as a non-staff official.

Goble officiated four years in the NBA G League, working the playoffs in 2015 and 2016 and the Finals in 2016.

Before becoming a full-time referee, Goble worked as a police officer for the Miami-Dade Police Department for 13 years.

Goble's brother, John, is in his 13th season as an NBA official.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Power

Favorite Movie: The Godfather

Favorite Musician: Marc Anthony

Favorite Book: Pirates in Blue

Favorite Meal: Veal parmigiana

Favorite App: Netflix

Would Most Like To Visit: Tahiti

Bucket List: Roll own cigar in Cuba

JOHN GOBLE #30

NBA Experience: 13th season
Born: November 25, 1978 (Miami, Fla.)
Resides: Miami, Fla.
High School: Miami Senior (Miami, Fla.)
College: Florida International University ’01

John Goble (go-BULL) has officiated 781 regular-season games in 12 seasons as an NBA official. He has also refereed 78 playoff games, including four Finals games.

Goble officiated four seasons in the NBA G League, where he was selected to work the 2007 Finals. He also refereed in several collegiate conferences, including the SEC, Conference USA and Sun Belt.

Goble received a bachelor’s degree in Physical Education from Florida International University. He worked as an account executive and teacher before joining the NBA.

Goble’s brother, Jacyn, is in his fourth season as an NBA official.

FUN FACTS

Favorite Musician: Enjoys hip-hop, salsa and reggaeton music

Favorite Meal: Skirt steak, black beans and rice, fried plantains

Favorite App: Amazon

Would Most Like To Visit: Hawaii

Hidden Talent: Cuban coffee barista

JASON GOLDENBERG #35

NBA Experience: 3rd season
Born: November 14, 1984 (Atlanta, Ga.)
Resides: Atlanta, Ga.
High School: Milton (Alpharetta, Ga.)
College: University of Georgia ’07

Jason Goldenberg has officiated 88 regular-season games in two seasons as an NBA official. He also refereed four regular-season games as a non-staff official from 2015-17.

Goldenberg joined the NBA officiating staff after five years as an NBA G League referee. He worked the 2015 NBA G League Finals.

Goldenberg has four seasons of collegiate officiating experience, with stints in the Big South, Southern and Ohio Valley conferences.

During the offseason, he enjoys traveling around the world and experiencing new cultures, food and beaches.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Curb Your Enthusiasm

Favorite Movie: Tommy Boy

Favorite Musician: Red Hot Chili Peppers

Favorite Book: Ego Is the Enemy

Favorite Meal: Chicken parmesan

Favorite App: NBA

Would Most Like To Visit: Australia

Bucket List: Sail around world in mega yacht

NATE GREEN #65

NBA Experience: 1st season
Born: December 2, 1977 (Des Moines, Iowa)
Resides: Terre Haute, Ind.
High School: Theodore Roosevelt (Des Moines, Iowa)
College: Indiana State ’00

Nate Green is in his first season as a full-time NBA official. He refereed nine regular-season games as a non-staff official during the 2018-19 season.

Green officiated four seasons in the NBA G League, including the 2019 Finals. He has six years of collegiate officiating experience in the ACC, Atlantic 10, SEC and American conferences, and five years of high school officiating experience in Indiana.

The Iowa native was a standout basketball player at Indiana State, winning 1999-2000 Missouri Valley Player of the Year and Defensive Player of the Year honors. He played two seasons in the NBA G League and seven seasons in Italy.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: The Wire

Favorite Movie: Coming to America

Favorite Musician: Syleena Johnson

Favorite Book: Lone Survivor

Favorite Meal: Tagliatelle bolognese

Favorite App: Netflix

Would Most Like To Visit: Africa

Green is involved with Special Olympics Indiana and the non-profit organization All-Pro Dad. He enjoys playing golf, bass fishing and wine collecting.

DAVID GUTHRIE #16

NBA Experience: 15th season
Born: May 21, 1974 (Athens, Ga.)
Resides: Charlotte, N.C.
High School: W.A. Berry (Birmingham, Ala.)
College: North Carolina State '99

David Guthrie has officiated 807 regular-season games in 14 seasons as an NBA official. He has also worked 46 playoff games, including three Finals games. Guthrie was part of the officiating crew for the 2019 NBA All-Star Game in his current hometown of Charlotte.

He considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be his first NBA Finals: Game 2 of the 2018 Finals between the Cleveland Cavaliers and the Golden State Warriors.

Before joining the NBA, Guthrie officiated in the NBA G League and the Continental Basketball Association. He refereed the NBA G League playoffs from 2003-05 and the NBA G League Finals in 2004 and 2005.

Guthrie has collegiate officiating experience in several conferences, including the ACC and SEC. He worked the 2003 and 2004 NCAA Tournaments.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: The West Wing

Favorite Movie: The Shawshank Redemption

Favorite Musician: The Eagles

Favorite Book: The Match

Favorite Meal: Steak, whipped potatoes and broccoli

Favorite App: The Chive

Would Most Like To Visit: Hawaii

Bucket List: Play golf at Augusta National and Cypress Point

Hidden Talent: Hitting fungoes

Guthrie played minor league baseball in the Cincinnati Reds' organization, with stints in Princeton, W. Va.; Billings, Mont.; Charleston, W. Va.; and Chattanooga, Tenn.

He attended Southern Union Community College in Wadley, Ala., and North Carolina State University on baseball scholarships. Guthrie played baseball and basketball at W.A. Berry High School in Birmingham, Ala.

Guthrie and his wife have two sons and a daughter.

LAUREN HOLTKAMP-STERLING #7

NBA Experience: 6th season
Born: November 24, 1980 (Jefferson City, Mo.)
Resides: Tampa, Fla.
High School: Jefferson City (Jefferson City, Mo.)
College: Drury University '03; M.S. '04
MDV from Emory University '10

Lauren Holtkamp-Sterling has officiated 205 regular-season games in five seasons as an NBA official.

Holtkamp officiated six seasons in the NBA G League and four seasons in the WNBA. She worked the 2013 and 2014 NBA G League Finals and the 2014 WNBA Conference Finals.

Holtkamp officiated in numerous collegiate conferences, including the ACC, Big Ten, Big 12, Big East and Colonial Athletic. She also refereed various FIBA competitions, including the 2010 World University Games and the 2012 and 2013 FIBA Americas Championships.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Black Mirror

Favorite Musician: Florence and the Machine

Favorite Book: Needful Things

Favorite Meal: Breakfast

Favorite App: Insight Timer

Would Most Like To Visit: Greece

Bucket List: Travel internationally

Hidden Talent: Creating ceramics

The Missouri native graduated with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration in 2003 and a master's degree in Communication in 2004 from Drury University, where she was a member of the 2003 basketball team that competed for the Division II National Championship. She earned a Master of Divinity from Emory University in 2010.

Holtkamp is married to NBA official Jonathan Sterling.

BILL KENNEDY #55

NBA Experience: 22nd season
Born: November 10, 1966 (Phoenix, Ariz.)
Resides: Phoenix, Ariz.
High School: St. Mary's (Phoenix, Ariz.)
College: Arizona State University

Bill Kennedy has officiated 1,223 regular-season games in 21 seasons as an NBA official. He has also worked 104 playoff games, including five Finals games.

Kennedy considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be his first NBA Finals: Game 3 of the 2010 Finals between the Boston Celtics and the Los Angeles Lakers.

In addition to his NBA service, Kennedy has five years of officiating experience in the Continental Basketball Association, including working the 1996 and 1997 CBA Finals. He also officiated two games in the 1998 WNBA Finals and has 15 years of high school officiating experience in Arizona.

FUN FACTS

Favorite Musician: Luther Vandross

Favorite Meal: Filet mignon and a good bottle of red

Would Most Like To Visit: Jerusalem

Bucket List: Egyptian pyramids

Hidden Talent: Karaoke

The Arizona native attended Arizona State University after graduating from St. Mary's High School in Phoenix. While a student at St. Mary's, he was named Knight of the Year in 1984 for his athletic achievements.

Kennedy's charitable efforts include working with former NBA official Tommy Nuñez in running the National Hispanic Basketball Classic to help raise money for inner-city youth. He also works with the Boys & Girls Club of Phoenix.

COURTNEY KIRKLAND #61

NBA Experience: 20th season
Born: October 22, 1974 (Flint, Mich.)
Resides: Atlanta, Ga.
High School: Flint Northwestern (Flint, Mich.)
College: Southern University '99

Courtney Kirkland has officiated 1,157 regular-season games in 19 seasons as an NBA official. He has also refereed 22 playoff games.

His officiating experience includes two seasons in the WNBA and three seasons in the Continental Basketball Association, working the Finals in both leagues. He was a high school official for four years in Louisiana.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Martin

Favorite Movie: Friday

Favorite Book: Total Money Makeover

Favorite App: NBA

Kirkland earned a bachelor's degree in Computer Science from Southern University. At Northwestern High School in his native Flint, Mich., he was part of the basketball team that reached the state semifinals in 1991 and 1992.

Off the court, Kirkland has been involved in efforts to curb homelessness in Atlanta (where he now resides). He also supports the Help for Flint water relief efforts in his hometown.

Kirkland enjoys playing golf, exercising and writing.

MARAT KOGUT #32

NBA Experience: 11th season
Born: August 5, 1979 (Kiev, Ukraine)
Resides: Woodmere, N.Y.
High School: FDR (Brooklyn, N.Y.)
College: St. John's University (Jamaica, N.Y.) '08

Marat Kogut (MAH-rot co-GUT) has officiated 562 regular-season games in 10 seasons as an NBA official.

Kogut considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be a game between the Boston Celtics and Los Angeles Lakers on Jan. 30, 2011, the first meeting between the teams after their matchup in the 2010 NBA Finals.

His professional experience includes three years in the WNBA as well as four years in the NBA G League.

Kogut immigrated to the United States with his family seven days after he was born in Ukraine. Raised in Brooklyn, N.Y., he started officiating at age 16 at local recreational youth leagues.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Ozark

Favorite Movie: The Shawshank Redemption

Favorite Musician: Billy Joel

Favorite Book: Tuesdays with Morrie

Favorite Meal: Sushi

Favorite App: Amazon

Would Most Like To Visit: Croatia

Hidden Talent: Magician

Before joining the NBA officiating staff, Kogut refereed in several NCAA Division I conferences, including the Ohio Valley, Atlantic Sun and Big South. He also officiated New York metro area high school games for four years.

Kogut is a former head men's basketball manager for St. John's University. In addition to being an amateur magician, Kogut enjoys playing the piano, volleyball and golf.

KARL LANE #77

NBA Experience: 9th season
Born: February 26, 1975 (Little Rock, Ark.)
Resides: Little Rock, Ark.
High School: Glendbard East (Lombard, Ill.)
College: Philander Smith College

Karl Lane has officiated 453 regular-season games and three playoff games in eight seasons as an NBA official.

He considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be his first playoff game: Game 2 of a 2018 first-round series between the Philadelphia 76ers and the Miami Heat.

His officiating experience includes four seasons in the NBA G League and nine years each at the collegiate (Southwestern Athletic and Gulf South conferences) and high school levels.

Lane worked as an In-School Suspension Teacher for two years in Little Rock, Ark.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Power

Favorite Movie: Star Wars movies

Favorite Musician: Jay-Z

Favorite Book: Star Wars books

Favorite Meal: Mexican

Favorite App: Candy Crush

Would Most Like To Visit: Rome

Bucket List: See seven wonders of the world

Hidden Talent: Home repair

ERIC LEWIS #42

NBA Experience: 16th season
Born: May 20, 1971 (Daytona Beach, Fla.)
Resides: Daytona Beach, Fla.
High School: Mainland (Daytona Beach, Fla.)
College: Bethune Cookman College

Eric Lewis has officiated 936 regular-season games and 46 playoff games in 15 seasons as an NBA official. He worked his first NBA Finals game during the 2019 series between the Golden State Warriors and the Toronto Raptors.

Previously, Lewis spent three seasons refereeing in the NBA G League (including the 2004 Finals) and two years working in the United States Basketball League.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Martin

Favorite Movie: Which Way Is Up?

Favorite Meal: Lasagna

Hidden Talent: Drawing

The Florida native officiated in several conferences during eight years in college basketball, including the Atlantic Sun, Ohio Valley, Sunshine State and Florida Sun. He refereed in Florida high schools for six years.

Lewis played basketball at Bethune Cookman College and Mainland High School in Daytona Beach, Fla.

Lewis works with several organizations that help troubled teens.

MARK LINDSAY #29

NBA Experience: 13th season
Born: August 21, 1977 (Drexel Hill, Pa.)
Resides: Phoenixville, Pa.
High School: Malvern Prep (Malvern, Pa.)
College: West Chester University '99

Mark Lindsay has officiated 728 regular-season games and nine playoff games in 12 seasons as an NBA official.

He considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be his first playoff game: a first-round game between the Charlotte Hornets and the Miami Heat on April 23, 2014.

Lindsay refereed for five seasons in the NBA G League, including playoff games in 2005, 2006 and 2007. He officiated in several collegiate conferences, including the ACC, Colonial Athletic Association, Atlantic Sun, Big South and Ohio Valley.

The Pennsylvania native received a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and graduated with honors from West Chester University, where he was a three-year letterman in varsity basketball. He has worked as a teacher and real estate agent.

Lindsay directs the Proactive Referee Officiating Camp, which raises money to benefit underprivileged youth who attend the Philadelphia Men's Basketball League/Treasure Beach Basketball Camp in rural Jamaica. In addition, he contributes to West Chester University's Dick Delaney Scholarship Endowment and the Elizabeth Ciunci Foundation to provide educational opportunities to local Pennsylvania students.

Lindsay, who is married with three children, enjoys reading, working out, bicycling and yoga.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Family Guy

Favorite Movie: The Shawshank Redemption

Favorite Musician: Dave Matthews

Favorite Book: Extreme Ownership

Favorite App: Apple Podcasts

Would Most Like To Visit: Rome

Bucket List: Family trip to Italy

Hidden Talent: Spelling

TRE MADDOX #23

NBA Experience: 9th season
Born: October 7, 1967 (Great Lakes, Ill.)
Resides: Las Vegas, Nev.
High School: Wyandotte (Kansas City, Kan.)
College: Dakota State University

Tre Maddox has officiated 441 regular-season games and two playoff games in eight seasons as an NBA official. He made his playoff debut as an NBA referee in 2019.

He considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be his first game: a double-overtime matchup between the LA Clippers and the Utah Jazz on Nov. 6, 2010.

Maddox officiated four seasons in the NBA G League and six years at the collegiate level in the Pac-12, West Coast and PacWest conferences. He also has eight years of high school officiating experience.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Power

Favorite Movie: The Godfather

Favorite Musician: Michael Jackson

Favorite Book: Quiet Strength

Favorite Meal: Steak and lobster

Favorite App: Fight List

Would Most Like To Visit: Dubai

Bucket List: Attend The Open Championship

Hidden Talent: Play the piano

ED MALLOY #14

NBA Experience: 18th season
Born: March 17, 1971 (Media, Pa.)
Resides: Aston, Pa.
High School: Cardinal O'Hara (Springfield, Pa.)
College: Philadelphia University '93

Ed Malloy has officiated 1,064 regular-season games in 17 seasons as an NBA official. He has also worked 111 playoff games, including 10 Finals games. Malloy officiated the 2017 NBA All-Star Game in New Orleans.

Before joining the NBA, Malloy officiated one season in the NBA G League and three seasons each in the WNBA and the Continental Basketball Association. He refereed the 2002 NBA G League Finals and the 2001 CBA Finals.

Malloy attended St. Joseph's University before transferring to Philadelphia University. At Philadelphia, he was a member of the basketball team and won ECAC Player of the Year honors in 1993. He earned a bachelor's degree in Marketing.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Jeopardy!

Favorite Movie: Braveheart

Favorite Musician: U2

Favorite Book: Tom Clancy novels

Favorite Meal: Pasta

Favorite App: Google Maps

Would Most Like To Visit: Sorrento, Italy

KEN MAUER #41

NBA Experience: 34th season
Born: April 23, 1955 (St. Paul, Minn.)
Resides: Fort Myers, Fla.
High School: Harding (St. Paul, Minn.)
College: University of Minnesota '77

Ken Mauer has officiated 1,935 regular-season games in 33 seasons as an NBA official. He has also worked 218 playoff games, including 19 Finals games. Mauer has the longest tenure among active NBA referees.

Among Mauer's most memorable NBA assignments was Game 6 of the 2013 NBA Finals between the Miami Heat and the San Antonio Spurs. He also officiated Michael Jordan's first game back from retirement, when the Chicago Bulls faced the Indiana Pacers on March 19, 1995.

FUN FACTS

Favorite Movie: The Adventures of Robin Hood

Favorite Musician: Bruce Springsteen

Favorite Meal: Anything my wife cooks!

Bucket List: Travel to every European country

Mauer's résumé includes six years of officiating experience in the Continental Basketball Association, nine years in the collegiate ranks and 12 years at the high school level in Minnesota.

In college, Mauer played on the University of Minnesota baseball team with Hall of Famer Paul Molitor. Mauer earned All-Big Ten honors in 1977, when the Golden Gophers reached the College World Series. His cousin is retired major league catcher Joe Mauer, a three-time American League batting champion with the Minnesota Twins.

After spending most of his life in Minnesota, Mauer has settled in Fort Myers, Fla. He supports the Salvation Army and is often a guest speaker at basketball camps and clinics.

RODNEY MOTT #71

NBA Experience: 22nd season
Born: September 3, 1957 (New Albany, Ind.)
Resides: Las Vegas, Nev.
High School: Bishop Turner (Buffalo, N.Y.)
College: San Diego State ’86

Rodney Mott has officiated 1,255 regular-season games and 35 playoff games in 21 seasons as an NBA official. He also refereed the 2013 NBA All-Star Game in Houston.

Before joining the NBA, Mott spent four years officiating in the Continental Basketball Association. He also worked eight years in the Los Angeles Pro Am league, three years at the junior college level and four years in the high school ranks in San Diego.

Mott is a U.S. Navy veteran with three years of active duty and three years in reserves.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Black-ish

Favorite Movie: The Shawshank Redemption

Favorite Musician: Stevie Wonder

Favorite Book: World Without Cancer

Favorite Meal: Vegetable stir fry

Favorite App: eBay

Would Most Like To Visit: Jerusalem

Hidden Talent: Interior design

ASHLEY MOYER-GLEICH #13

NBA Experience: 2nd season
Born: August 5, 1987 (Lebanon, Pa.)
Resides: Camp Hill, Pa.
High School: Cedar Crest (Lebanon, Pa.)
College: Millersville University '10

Ashley Moyer-Gleich (gleash) is in her second season as an NBA official. She refereed 31 regular-season games in her first season on staff in 2018-19.

Moyer-Gleich officiated three seasons in the NBA G League, including the 2018 playoffs. She served as a WNBA referee in 2018.

The Pennsylvania native has four years of collegiate officiating experience, with stints in the ACC, Atlantic 10, Patriot League and Ivy League, among other conferences. She also has five years of high school officiating experience in her home state.

Moyer-Gleich played basketball at Millersville University in Pennsylvania. She competed in the Division II Sweet 16 in 2010.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Grey's Anatomy

Favorite Movie: Face/Off

Favorite Musician: Michael Jackson

Favorite Book: Charlotte's Web

Favorite Meal: Spanish food

Favorite App: Yelp

Would Most Like To Visit: Africa

Bucket List: See seven wonders of the world

Hidden Talent: Double Dutch

Off the court, Moyer-Gleich likes to spend time outdoors with her family, plan events and take photographs. She also enjoys Bikram yoga and swimming.

MATT MYERS #43

NBA Experience: 2nd season
Born: October 6, 1983 (St. Louis, Mo.)
Resides: Washington, D.C.
High School: Jefferson City (Jefferson City, Mo.)
College: Hampton University '06

Matt Myers is in his second season as an NBA official. He refereed 33 regular-season games in his first season on staff in 2018-19.

Myers officiated 12 seasons in the NBA G League and two seasons in the WNBA. He worked the NBA G League Finals in 2012, 2013 and 2018 as well as the 2013 NBA G League All-Star Game.

Myers spent 12 years as a collegiate official, with stints in the Big South, Mid-Eastern Athletic and Southern conferences, among others. He also has five years of high school officiating experience in Virginia.

The Missouri native earned a bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering and was a member of the golf team at Hampton University. He played golf and soccer at Jefferson City High School in Missouri.

His interests include photography and traveling.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: The Wire

Favorite Movie: The Shawshank Redemption

Favorite Musician: Jay-Z

Favorite Book: Oh, the Places You'll Go!

Favorite Meal: Buffalo wings

Favorite App: Words with Friends

Would Most Like To Visit: Bora Bora

Bucket List: Attend The Masters

Hidden Talent: Photography and videography

BRETT NANSEL #44

NBA Experience: 4th season
Born: June 10, 1977 (Miles City, Mont.)
Resides: Bozeman, Mont.
High School: Custer County District (Miles City, Mont.)
College: North Dakota State '01

Brett Nansel (nan-SULL) has officiated 135 regular-season games in three seasons as an NBA official. He also worked 17 regular-season games as a non-staff official.

Nansel considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be a game between the Golden State Warriors and the Indiana Pacers on Dec. 5, 2016, when the Warriors' Klay Thompson scored 60 points in 29 minutes.

Nansel officiated eight years in the NBA G League. In addition to his professional experience, Nansel refereed NCAA Division I basketball for eight years, including five NCAA Tournament appearances (2012-16).

The Montana native has worked as a wildland firefighter (1997-01) and a high school history teacher (2002-14).

Nansel enjoys hunting, fly fishing and spending time on a family farm and cattle ranch with his wife and three children.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Anything on outdoor channels

Favorite Movie: Top Gun

Favorite Musician: Alan Jackson

Favorite Book: Wooden

Favorite Meal: Barbecue ribeye steak

Favorite App: Periscope

Would Most Like To Visit: Australia

Bucket List: Catch a grander (1,000-pound marlin)

Hidden Talent: Tenor saxophone

J.T. ORR #72

NBA Experience: 9th season
Born: October 20, 1973 (Pomona, Calif.)
Resides: LaVerne, Calif.
High School: Bonita (LaVerne, Calif.); Glendora (Glendora, Calif.)
College: Mt. San Antonio College (Walnut, Calif.)

J.T. Orr has officiated 436 regular-season games in eight seasons as an NBA official.

Orr's officiating experience includes five seasons in the NBA G League and 13 years at the collegiate level in the Pac-12, West Coast and Big West conferences, among others. He officiated the 2011 NCAA Tournament. Orr also has eight years of high school officiating experience in Southern California.

The California native previously spent more than 10 years as a counselor for young men in the foster care and probation systems of Los Angeles County.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: The People's Court

Favorite Movie: Tombstone

Favorite Musician: Maxwell

Favorite Book: The Outsiders

Favorite Meal: Biscuits and gravy

Favorite App: Boggle

Would Most Like To Visit: Greece

Bucket List: Run a marathon

Hidden Talent: Juggling

GEDIMINAS PETRAITIS #50

NBA Experience: 5th season
Born: February 5, 1989 (Kaunas, Lithuania)
Resides: Rockville, Md.
High School: Northwest (Germantown, Md.)
College: University of Maryland '11

Gediminas Petraitis (get-AH-min-iss puh-TRY-tis) has officiated 218 regular-season games and one playoff game in four seasons as an NBA official. He also refereed 12 regular-season games as a non-staff official.

In 2019, Petraitis made his playoff debut as an NBA official and refereed the Rising Stars at NBA All-Star in Charlotte.

Petraitis officiated the 2015 NBA G League Finals as part of a three-year stint in the NBA's official minor league. He has also served as a FIBA referee.

Petraitis officiated three seasons at the collegiate level, mainly in the Big South Conference. He also worked in various Division II, III and junior college leagues. Petraitis began his officiating career at the high school level in Maryland, where he is a member of the officiating organization IAABO Board 12.

Born in Lithuania, Petraitis graduated from the University of Maryland with dual degrees in Accounting and Finance. He became a U.S. citizen in 2015.

His father, Vidmantas, officiated college basketball games.

Petraitis enjoys traveling and occasionally dusting off and playing his accordion.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Narcos

Favorite Movie: Coming to America

Favorite Musician: Kanye West

Favorite Book: The Great Gatsby

Favorite Meal: Cepelinai

Favorite App: Peloton

Would Most Like To Visit: Iceland

Bucket List: Cycling in French Alps

Hidden Talent: Ballroom dancing

PHENIZEE RANSOM #70

NBA Experience: 2nd season
Born: December 9, 1974 (Atlanta, Ga.)
Resides: East Point, Ga.
High School: Woodward Academy (College Park, Ga.)
College: University of Georgia '98

Phenizee (FEN-uh-ZEE) Ransom is in his second season as an NBA official. He refereed 32 regular-season games in his first season on staff in 2018-19.

Ransom officiated seven seasons in the NBA G League, including the Finals in 2017 and 2018. He also worked the NBA G League International Challenge during NBA All-Star 2018 in Los Angeles.

Ransom has eight years of collegiate officiating experience, with stints in the MEAC, SWAC, Big South, Ohio Valley, Southern and Sun Belt conferences, among others. He also spent six years officiating high school basketball in Georgia.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Jalen & Jacoby

Favorite Movie: The Shawshank Redemption

Favorite Musician: The Foreign Exchange

Favorite Book: The Tao of Abundance

Favorite Meal: Hibachi chicken and shrimp

Favorite App: Shazam

Would Most Like To Visit: Cairo

Bucket List: Learn to play the piano

Hidden Talent: Public speaking

The Georgia native was a standout basketball player at Winston-Salem State, earning 1994-95 All-Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association honors. He went on to play two years at the University of Georgia (1996-98). Ransom played high school basketball at Woodward Academy in College Park, Ga.

His interests include golf and leadership development.

DEREK RICHARDSON #63

NBA Experience: 23rd season
Born: February 3, 1962 (Brooklyn, N.Y.)
Resides: Los Angeles, Calif.
High School: R.B. Stall (Charleston, S.C.)
College: Cal State Dominguez Hills '91

Derek Richardson has officiated 1,225 regular-season games and one playoff game in 22 seasons as an NBA official. He also refereed the 2010 NBA All-Star Game in Dallas.

Before joining the NBA, Richardson spent eight years officiating in the Continental Basketball Association. He also worked for 10 years as a Group Supervisor II for the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services.

Richardson has volunteered with Challengers Boys & Girls Club in Los Angeles, assisting with youth basketball programs. In 2005, Richardson established the Why Can't We Make A Difference Foundation, which focuses on academic and social enrichment programs for elementary school students in Los Angeles.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Black-ish

Favorite Movie: Field of Dreams

Favorite Musician: Roy Ayers and Marvin Gay

Favorite Book: Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome

Favorite Meal: Plankton, rice & beans and steamed cabbage

Favorite App: SoundHound

Would Most Like To Visit: Jerusalem and Sierra Leone

Known as "Coach" to the youth he mentors and "D-Rich" to his peers, Richardson played basketball at Los Angeles Southwest College and earned an associate's degree in Criminal Justice. He went on to earn a degree in Administration of Justice from Cal State Dominguez Hills.

LEROY RICHARDSON #20

NBA Experience: 25th season
Born: August 21, 1964 (Brooklyn, N.Y.)
Resides: Suffolk, Va.
High School: Westinghouse (Brooklyn, N.Y.)

Leroy Richardson has officiated 1,380 regular-season games and 10 playoff games in 24 seasons as an NBA official. He also refereed the 2012 NBA All-Star Game in Orlando, which he considers to be his most memorable NBA assignment.

Richardson's officiating experience includes three years in both the Continental Basketball Association and the collegiate ranks, with stints in the Big East, SEC and Ohio Valley conferences. He spent eight years officiating in Virginia high schools.

Richardson served his country for 12 years in the U.S. Navy beginning in 1982. He was the 1991 and 1992 Tactragrulant Sailor of the Year in Dam Neck, Va. Richardson was also awarded the Navy Achievement Medal and two Good Conduct Medals.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Black-ish

Favorite Movie: Crimson Tide

Favorite Musician: Michael Jackson

Favorite Book: The Bible

Favorite Meal: Ribeye steak

Favorite App: Instagram

Bucket List: Tour Jerusalem

Hidden Talent: Gunsmith

An enlisted surface warfare specialist and underwater sea surveillance specialist, he was stationed in Keflavik, Iceland, from 1986-87 and deployed to the Mediterranean from 1988-89.

Richardson has served as a motivational speaker at the Tidewater Detention Home in Virginia and numerous public schools in the state. An avid sports fan, Richardson enjoys watching basketball, football and baseball. He is also a novice gunsmith and target shooter.

NATALIE SAGO #9

NBA Experience: 2nd season
Born: May 24, 1989 (St. Louis, Mo.)
Resides: Farmington, Mo.
High School: Farmington (Farmington, Mo.)
College: University of Missouri-St. Louis '13

Natalie Sago (SAY-go) is in her second season as an NBA official. She refereed 31 regular-season games in her first season on staff in 2018-19.

Sago officiated four seasons in the NBA G League and three seasons in the WNBA. She worked the NBA G League International Challenge at NBA All-Star 2018 in Los Angeles.

Sago has three years of collegiate officiating experience, with stints in the Atlantic 10, Missouri Valley, Summit League and Metro Atlantic Athletic conferences, among others. She also has two years of high school officiating experience in her native Missouri.

In high school, Sago was part of a Farmington basketball team that finished as the Missouri state runner-up in 2007. She played softball for Jefferson College (2007-09) and Drury University (2009-11), serving as team captain for both schools.

Sago earned a bachelor's degree in K-12 Physical Education from the University of Missouri-St. Louis in 2013.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Ozark

Favorite Movie: Home Alone

Favorite Musician: P!nk

Favorite Book: Sum It Up

Favorite Meal: Pizza

Favorite App: Brain Wave

Would Most Like to Visit: Fiji

Bucket List: Watch a game in all 30 MLB stadiums (more than halfway there)

Hidden Talent: Juggling

JENNA SCHROEDER #84

NBA Experience: 1st season
Born: September 27, 1985 (Flint, Mich.)
Resides: Detroit, Mich.
High School: Clio (Clio, Mich.)
College: Saginaw Valley State University '09

Jenna Schroeder (shROW-der) is in her first season as a full-time NBA official.

Schroeder officiated three seasons in the NBA G League and two seasons in the WNBA. She has seven years of collegiate officiating experience, working games in the ACC, American, Atlantic 10 and Big East conferences.

A Flint, Mich., native, Schroeder played college basketball at Oakland University (2004-05) and Saginaw Valley State University (2005-08). She graduated from Saginaw Valley State with a bachelor's degree in Communications.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: 30 Rock

Favorite Movie: Dirty Dancing

Favorite Musician: Bob Seger

Would Most Like to Visit: Australia

Bucket List: See Billy Joel, Eric Clapton and The Rolling Stones in concert

EVAN SCOTT #78

NBA Experience: 1st season
Born: May 22, 1992 (Taejon, South Korea)
Resides: Richmond, Va.
High School: Thomas A. Edison (Alexandria, Va.)
College: Radford University '14

Evan Scott is in his first season as a full-time NBA official. He worked nine regular-season games as a non-staff official during the 2018-19 season.

Scott officiated three seasons in the NBA G League, where he refereed the 2019 Finals. He has five years of collegiate officiating experience in the Big South, Old Dominion Athletic and Capital Athletic conferences.

Scott also has two years of high school officiating experience in Virginia. He says the first game he ever officiated was in a church league.

Born in South Korea, Scott came to the United States when he was 4 months old. He played two seasons of rugby at Radford University in Virginia. Scott was a three-sport athlete in high school, competing in baseball, basketball and swimming.

He enjoys spending time with his son and weightlifting.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: SportsCenter

Favorite Movie: Inception

Favorite Musician: Prince

Favorite Book: Stalling for Time

Favorite Meal: Steak and asparagus

Favorite App: FaceTime

Would Most Like To Visit: Amalfi Coast

KEVIN SCOTT #24

NBA Experience: 9th season
Born: April 24, 1978 (Oconee County, S.C.)
Resides: Flowery Branch, Ga.
High School: Stephens County (Toccoa, Ga.)
College: Georgia Southern University B.S. '00; M.S. '02

Kevin Scott has officiated 448 regular-season games and eight playoff games in eight seasons as an NBA official.

Scott considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be a quadruple-overtime game between the Atlanta Hawks and the Utah Jazz on March 25, 2012.

His officiating experience includes four seasons in the NBA G League, where he refereed the playoffs from 2009-11 and was selected to work the Finals in 2011.

Scott has extensive experience officiating at the collegiate level, with four years in the SEC, six years in the Southern Conference, seven years in the Big South Conference and 10 years in the Atlantic Sun Conference.

He enjoys playing golf, fitness training, fishing and attending NASCAR events.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: 48 Hours

Favorite Movie: The Shawshank Redemption

Favorite Musician: Eric Church

Favorite Book: Friday Night Lights

Favorite Meal: Cheese pizza

Favorite App: The Weather Channel

Would Most Like To Visit: Great Barrier Reef

Bucket List: African safari

Hidden Talent: Facial recognition

AARON SMITH #51

NBA Experience: 4th season
Born: September 11, 1987
Resides: Philadelphia, Pa.
High School: West Chester East (West Chester, Pa.)
College: West Chester University '10

Aaron Smith has officiated 178 regular-season games in three seasons as an NBA official. He also refereed 13 regular-season games as a non-staff official.

Smith officiated four years in the NBA G League, where he worked the playoffs from 2015-17, the Finals in 2016 and 2017 and the All-Star Game in 2016. He also had assignments in the WNBA from 2013-16.

At the collegiate level, he officiated four seasons in the Big South Conference, including the conference championship game in 2016.

Smith graduated from West Chester University in 2010 with a bachelor's degree in History. At West Chester, he played one season of varsity basketball.

Before becoming a full-time official, Smith worked as a substitute teacher at the high school and middle school levels. He spent three years as a support staff member for a cyber charter school.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Homeland

Favorite Movie: The Shawshank Redemption

Favorite Musician: John Legend

Favorite Book: Unbroken

Favorite Meal: Any breakfast meal

Favorite App: Twitter

Would Most Like To Visit: Africa

Bucket List: Travel to all 50 states

MICHAEL SMITH #38

NBA Experience: 27th season
Born: February 5, 1955 (Memphis, Tenn.)
Resides: Memphis, Tenn.
High School: South Side (Memphis, Tenn.)

Michael Smith has officiated 1,503 regular-season games and 46 playoff games in 26 seasons as an NBA official.

He considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be the 2008 NBA All-Star Game in New Orleans.

Smith officiated five years in the Continental Basketball Association and eight years at the collegiate level in the Big Ten, SEC and Conference USA. He also has 10 years of high school officiating experience. Smith refereed the 1990 McDonald's High School All-American Game.

He played basketball and baseball at South Side High School in Memphis, Tenn.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: NCIS: New Orleans

Favorite Movie: Training Day

Favorite Musician: Charlie Wilson

Favorite Book: The President Is Missing

Favorite Meal: Dinner

Favorite App: ESPN

Would Most Like To Visit: White House

Bucket List: Sky diving

BILL SPOONER #22

NBA Experience: 31st season
Born: February 23, 1957 (El Paso, Texas)
Resides: Oak Park, Calif.
High School: Taft (Woodland Hills, Calif.)
College: San Diego State

Bill Spooner has officiated 1,506 regular-season games and 122 playoff games in 30 seasons as an NBA official. His assignments have also included the 2005 NBA All-Star Game in Denver.

Spooner has the second-longest tenure among active referees, behind Ken Mauer, who is in his 34th season.

In addition to his NBA service, Spooner has seven years of collegiate officiating experience in the Pac-12, Big West and West Coast conferences. He spent eight years as a high school official in his home state of California.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Suits

Favorite Movie: The Shawshank Redemption

Favorite Musician: The Eagles

Favorite Meal: Osso buco

Would Most Like To Visit: New Zealand

Bucket List: Bike trip through French vineyards

Spooner played football at Taft High School in Woodland Hills, Calif. His interests include playing golf and cooking.

JONATHAN STERLING #17

NBA Experience: 3rd season
Born: April 16, 1982 (Hampton, Va.)
Resides: Tampa, Fla.
High School: Satellite Beach High (Satellite Beach, Fla.)
College: Flagler College '06

Jonathan Sterling has officiated 87 regular-season games in two seasons as an NBA official.

Sterling officiated six years in the NBA G League, working the 2015 and 2016 playoffs and the 2017 Finals. He was also a member of the WNBA officiating staff for three years and has served as a FIBA official.

At the collegiate level, he worked for seven seasons in the American, Sun Belt, Southern, Southern Intercollegiate Athletic, Sunshine State and Peach Belt conferences. He also has experience as a Conference USA referee.

Sterling graduated from Flagler College in Florida with a bachelor's degree in Business Management. He was an All-Conference basketball player and team captain at Flagler and helped lead the team to the NAIA National Sweet 16. Sterling also played for the Brevard Blue Ducks of the United States Basketball League in 2006.

His interests and hobbies include detailing cars, bike riding, golf, water sports, scuba diving and traveling. Sterling is married to NBA official Lauren Holtkamp.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: How I Met Your Mother

Favorite Movie: Coming to America

Favorite Musician: Drake

Favorite Book: Canyons

Favorite Meal: Lasagna

Favorite App: Maps

Would Most Like To Visit: Australia

Bucket List: Dive with sharks

Hidden Talent: Break dancing

BEN TAYLOR #46

NBA Experience: 7th season
Born: October 7, 1985 (Murfreesboro, Tenn.)
Resides: Orlando, Fla.
High School: Cannon County (Woodbury, Tenn.)
College: Middle Tennessee State University '09

Ben Taylor has officiated 332 regular-season games in six seasons as an NBA official. He also refereed 17 regular-season games as a non-staff official.

Taylor made his playoff debut as an NBA referee in 2019, officiating three games during the postseason.

He considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be a regular-season game between the Miami Heat and the then Charlotte Bobcats on March 3, 2014, when Miami's LeBron James scored 61 points.

Taylor joined the full-time NBA staff in 2013-14 after six seasons as a referee in the NBA G League. He also has experience as a FIBA referee.

He received a bachelor's degree in Public Relations from Middle Tennessee State University in 2009.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: The West Wing

Favorite Movie: Field of Dreams

Favorite Musician: Brian McKnight

Favorite Book: Mitch Rapp series

Favorite Meal: Cheeseburger and tater tots

Favorite App: TripIt

Would Most Like To Visit: Scotland

Bucket List: Play golf at Augusta National

Hidden Talent: Dancing

DEDRIC TAYLOR #21

NBA Experience: 6th season
Born: November 14, 1975 (Miami, Fla.)
Resides: Miami, Fla.
High School: North Miami Beach (Miami, Fla.)
College: Florida International University

Dedric Taylor has officiated 283 regular-season games in five seasons as an NBA official.

Taylor joined the full-time NBA staff after four seasons as a referee in the NBA G League. He officiated in numerous collegiate conferences, including the SEC, Conference USA, Sun Belt, Southern, Mid-Eastern Athletic and Atlantic Sun.

Previously, Taylor worked as an Athletic Specialist for the City of North Miami Beach Parks & Recreation Department. He was also a UPS driver for 13 years.

Taylor enjoys fishing and playing golf.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Good Times

Favorite Movie: Crash

Favorite Musician: Michael Jackson

Favorite Book: Tears We Cannot Stop

Favorite Meal: Breakfast

Favorite App: Candy Crush

Would Most Like To Visit: Africa

Bucket List: Sky diving

Hidden Talent: Playing the trumpet and juggling

JOSH TIVEN #58

NBA Experience: 10th season
Born: March 12, 1978 (Norwich, Conn.)
Resides: Waterford, Conn.
High School: Ledyard (Ledyard, Conn.)

Josh Tiven has officiated 552 regular-season games and 27 playoff games in nine seasons as an NBA official. Tiven was assigned as an alternate official for the 2019 NBA Finals.

He considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be when the Golden State Warriors' Klay Thompson scored 37 points in the third quarter and finished with 52 points against the Sacramento Kings on Jan. 23, 2015.

Tiven officiated five years in the NBA G League, working three Finals series as well as the 2008 All-Star Game. In addition, he refereed two years in the WNBA and seven years at the collegiate level.

A native of Norwich, Conn., Tiven is married with two daughters. He enjoys playing golf.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Seinfeld

Favorite Movie: Minority Report

Favorite Musician: Ed Sheeran

Favorite Book: Firstborn (novel written by his father, Bruce)

Favorite Meal: Lasagna

Favorite App: Instagram

Would Most Like To Visit: Hawaii

Bucket List: Play golf at Augusta National

Hidden Talent: Yo-Yo expert

SCOTT TWARDOSKI #52

NBA Experience: 9th season
Born: March 6, 1973 (Enumclaw, Wash.)
Resides: Peoria, Ariz.
High School: Highland (Cowiche, Wash.)
College: Linfield College (McMinnville, Ore.); City University (Renton, Wash.)

Scott Twardoski (twar-DAH-ski) has officiated 435 regular-season games and one playoff game in eight seasons as an NBA official. He made his playoff debut as an NBA referee in 2019.

Twardoski refereed for six seasons in the NBA G League. He also has seven seasons of WNBA experience, working both the Finals and All-Star Game.

In addition to his professional basketball experience, Twardoski officiated college games for 12 years in the Pac-12, Big 12, Big Sky and West Coast conferences. He has 10 years of high school officiating experience.

Twardoski worked as an English teacher for five years in Covington, Wash., and as a speaker for five years at Learning for Living in Meadow Vista, Calif.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: M*A*S*H

Favorite Book: Core 52

Favorite Meal: Steak and mushrooms

Favorite App: Pinochle

Would Most Like To Visit: Norway

Bucket List: Photograph hot air balloon festivals around the world

Hidden Talent: Landscaping and astrophotography

JUSTIN VAN DUYNE #64

NBA Experience: 6th season
Born: November 8, 1981 (Arcadia, Calif.)
Resides: LaVerne, Calif.
High School: Los Altos High (Hacienda Heights, Calif.)
College: University of La Verne '05

Justin Van Duyne (van-DINE) has officiated 270 regular-season games in five seasons as an NBA official. He also refereed 16 regular-season games as a non-staff official.

He considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be the first game that he officiated as a full-time NBA referee: Golden State Warriors at Sacramento Kings on Oct. 29, 2014.

Van Duyne joined the NBA officiating staff after four seasons as a referee in the NBA G League. He also officiated in numerous collegiate conferences, including the Pac-12, Mountain West, Big West, WCC and WAC.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Entourage

Favorite Movie: The Bourne movies

Favorite Musician: Blake Shelton

Favorite Book: Moneyball

Favorite Meal: Filet mignon

Favorite App: The Chive

Would Most Like To Visit: Aruba

Bucket List: Visit every baseball stadium

The California native spent nine years as a police officer in Ontario, Calif. He was also a middle school physical education teacher in California for two years.

He enjoys spending time with his three children, playing golf and boating.

SCOTT WALL #31

NBA Experience: 25th season
Born: September 11, 1966 (Jacksonville, Ill.)
Resides: Merritt Island, Fla.
High School: Shawnee Mission NW (Shawnee, Kan.)
College: Emporia State University

Scott Wall has officiated 1,267 regular-season games and 13 playoff games in 24 seasons as an NBA official.

Wall considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be the 2012 NBA All-Star Game in Orlando.

Wall has four years of officiating experience with USA Basketball, four years in the collegiate ranks in the ACC, Ohio Valley and Atlantic Sun conferences, and five years at the high school level in Kansas and Alabama.

Wall volunteers with Georgianna United Methodist Church in Merritt Island, Fla., on local mission programs. He is involved with the National Wild Turkey Federation's Space Coast Osceolas Gobblers fundraising program to conserve wild turkeys and wildlife habitat.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: NCIS

Favorite Movie: James Bond 007 movies

Favorite Musician: Tim McGraw

Favorite Book: Mitch Rapp series

Favorite Meal: Pot roast

Favorite App: Angry Birds

Would Most Like To Visit: Rome

Bucket List: Sky dive

His father, Bill, is a former USA Basketball Director. His mother, Patricia, is a former Southeastern Conference Associate Commissioner.

CJ WASHINGTON #12

NBA Experience: 4th season
Born: September 20, 1979 (Baton Rouge, La.)
Resides: Missouri City, Texas
High School: Thibodaux (Thibodaux, La.)
College: Southern University '02

CJ Washington has officiated 126 regular-season games in three seasons as an NBA official.

His officiating experience includes eight years in the NBA G League, where he refereed in the Finals and the All-Star Game.

Washington spent 10 years as a Division I collegiate official, with stints in the SEC, Conference USA, Southwestern Athletic Conference and Southland Conference. He also has five years of high school officiating experience in Louisiana and Texas.

He previously worked in the Houston area as a licensed residential building inspector. Washington also worked as a residential real estate appraiser in Louisiana.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Power

Favorite Movie: Life

Favorite Musician: Anthony Hamilton

Favorite Book: IXI Rise of the King

Favorite Meal: Lasagna

Would Most Like To Visit: Italy

Bucket List: Attend a football game at Notre Dame Stadium

The Louisiana native graduated from Southern University in Baton Rouge, La., with a bachelor's degree in Mass Communications in 2002.

Washington and his wife have two children. He enjoys traveling with family and friends, reading, watching movies and playing golf.

TOM WASHINGTON #49

NBA Experience: 29th season
Born: December 25, 1957 (Ft. Smith, Ark.)
Resides: Atlanta, Ga.
High School: Central (Philadelphia, Pa.)
College: Norfolk State University '78

Tom Washington has officiated 1,629 regular-season games in 28 seasons as an NBA official. He has also worked 172 playoff games, including four Finals games.

Washington was a member of the crews that officiated the 2004 NBA All-Star Game in Los Angeles and the 2017 NBA All-Star Game in New Orleans.

He considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be his first NBA Finals: Game 4 of the 2008 Finals between the Boston Celtics and the Los Angeles Lakers.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Martin

Favorite Movie: Boomerang

Favorite Musician: Brian Culbertson and Stevie Wonder

Favorite Book: The Bible

Favorite Meal: Salmon

In addition to his NBA service, Washington officiated two years in the Continental Basketball Association, one year at the collegiate level in Division II and III, and five years at the high school level in his former hometown of Philadelphia.

Off the court, Washington has volunteered with the Big Brothers Big Sisters Amachi program, Children's Choice, the Mt. Zion Baptist Youth Organization and the PGA Juniors program.

Washington is a cum laude graduate with a bachelor's degree in Sociology from Norfolk State University.

JAMES WILLIAMS #60

NBA Experience: 10th season
Born: May 23, 1979 (Memphis, Tenn.)
Resides: Chicago, Ill.
High School: LaPorte (LaPorte, Ind.)
College: Purdue University ’01

James Williams has officiated 530 regular-season games and 19 playoff games in nine seasons as an NBA official. He also worked the 2013 NBA All-Star Game in Houston.

Williams served as an NCAA official from 2001-10. He also officiated two seasons in the WNBA, two NBA G League Finals and the 2010 NBA G League All-Star Game.

Williams graduated from Purdue University with a bachelor’s degree in Law & Society and History. He was honored as an Outstanding Graduating Senior by the School of Liberal Arts.

The Memphis native and Chicago resident enjoys reading, sports, movies, travel, working out and biking.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Martin

Favorite Movie: The Shawshank Redemption

Favorite Book: Love Wins

Favorite Meal: Soul food

Favorite App: Waze

Would Most Like To Visit: Africa

Bucket List: Earn law degree

Hidden Talent: Throwing a baseball

LEON WOOD #40

NBA Experience: 24th season
Born: March 25, 1962 (Columbia, S.C.)
Resides: Queen Creek, Ariz.
High School: St. Monica (Santa Monica, Calif.)
College: Cal State Fullerton '84

Leon Wood has officiated 1,319 regular-season games and 23 playoff games in 23 seasons as an NBA official. His assignments have also included the 2013 NBA All-Star Game in Houston.

He has three years of Continental Basketball Association officiating experience and one year of collegiate experience in the Ohio Valley and Atlantic Sun conferences. Wood also refereed high school basketball in California for one year.

Wood was the 10th pick in the famed 1984 NBA Draft, which also included Hakeem Olajuwon, Michael Jordan and Charles Barkley. He played in the NBA for six seasons with the Philadelphia 76ers, Washington Bullets, New Jersey Nets, San Antonio Spurs, Atlanta Hawks and Sacramento Kings, averaging 6.4 points, 3.2 assists and 1.2 rebounds in 274 games. Wood was a member of USA Basketball's gold-medal-winning teams at the 1984 Summer Olympics and the 1983 Pan-Am Games.

Wood played for the University of Arizona for one season before transferring to Cal State Fullerton, where he was named an All-American. The Santa Monica, Calif., native was inducted into the Orange County Hall of Fame and the Cal State Fullerton Hall of Fame.

His hobbies include playing golf and tennis and lifting weights.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Law & Order

Favorite Movie: A Few Good Men

Favorite Musician: Hip-hop music

Favorite Meal: Steak

Favorite App: Hulu

Would Most Like To Visit: Africa and Australia

HAYWOODE WORKMAN #66

NBA Experience: 12th season
Born: January 23, 1966 (Charlotte, N.C.)
Resides: Tampa, Fla.
High School: Myers Park (Charlotte, N.C.)
College: Oral Roberts University

Haywoode Workman has officiated 590 regular-season games in 11 seasons as an NBA official.

He considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be a matchup between the Los Angeles Lakers and the Utah Jazz on April 13, 2016, when Los Angeles' Kobe Bryant scored 60 points in his final game.

Workman spent four seasons officiating in the NBA G League. He also refereed in the Continental Basketball Association.

A second-round pick in the 1989 NBA Draft, Workman played eight seasons in the NBA with the Atlanta Hawks, Washington Bullets, Indiana Pacers, Milwaukee Bucks and Toronto Raptors. He averaged 5.5 points, 3.9 assists and 2.3 rebounds in 359 games. Workman also played professionally overseas and in the CBA.

Workman was an All-State high school quarterback in North Carolina. He played one year of football and basketball at Winston-Salem State University (the latter for the legendary Clarence "Big House" Gaines) before transferring to Oral Roberts University. Workman was inducted into the Oral Roberts Athletics Hall of Fame in 2003.

FUN FACTS

Favorite Movie: Coming to America

Favorite Musician: Wyclef Jean

Favorite Meal: Chicken and rice

Favorite App: Waze

Would Most Like To Visit: Africa

Bucket List: See seven wonders of the world

Hidden Talent: Ping-Pong

SEAN WRIGHT #4

NBA Experience: 15th season
Born: August 29, 1971 (New York, N.Y.)
Resides: Dacula, Ga.
High School: W.P. Davidson (Mobile, Ala.)
College: Spring Hill College ’93; MBA at University of Mobile ’96

Sean Wright has officiated 842 regular-season games and 53 playoff games in 14 seasons as an NBA official. He was assigned as an alternate official for the 2019 NBA Finals.

Wright previously refereed in the NBA G League, where he officiated the 2004 playoffs and the 2005 Finals.

At the collegiate level, Wright officiated in the SEC, Colonial, Big South, Southern, Ohio Valley, Atlantic Sun and Southwestern Athletic conferences. He refereed the men’s NCAA Division II Tournament in 2004.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: Law & Order

Favorite Movie: Love Jones

Favorite Musician: Michael Jackson

Favorite Book: Crime and Punishment

Favorite Meal: Roasted chicken and veggies

Favorite App: Son’s football team app

Would Most Like To Visit: Greece

Bucket List: Fly a plane

Hidden Talent: Chess

ZACH ZARBA #15

NBA Experience: 17th season
Born: April 29, 1975 (New York, N.Y.)
Resides: Brooklyn, N.Y.
High School: Midwood (Brooklyn, N.Y.)
College: SUNY New Paltz '97

Zach Zarba has officiated 1,017 regular-season games in 16 seasons as an NBA official. He has also refereed 92 playoff games, including seven Finals games. Other assignments have included the 2016 NBA All-Star Game in Toronto.

Zarba considers his most memorable NBA assignment to be his first NBA Finals: Game 3 of the 2013 Finals between the Miami Heat and the San Antonio Spurs.

Before joining the NBA, Zarba officiated in the NBA G League for two years, where he worked the Finals. He also refereed one year in the Continental Basketball Association and two years in the International Basketball League.

Zarba has three years of collegiate officiating experience in the ACC, SEC, Colonial Athletic Association, Atlantic Sun Conference, Ohio Valley Conference and Northeast Conference. He has three years of high school officiating experience in his native New York.

At SUNY New Paltz, Zarba was a member of the basketball team and served as captain in his senior season. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in Political Science.

Zarba does community service work with Brooklyn Youth Sports Club, It's from the Sole, Camp Felix and Beyond the Game Inc.

FUN FACTS

Favorite TV Show: The Wire

Favorite Movie: The Godfather

Favorite Meal: Shrimp oreganata

Favorite App: Instagram

Would Most Like To Visit: Italy

Hidden Talent: Cooking

NBA OFFICIALS: ACTIVE LEADERS

(Statistics entering 2019-20 season)

MOST YEARS OF SERVICE

Ken Mauer	33
Bill Spooner	30
Tom Washington	28
Michael Smith	26
Tony Brothers	25
Scott Foster	25
Bennie Adams	24
James Capers	24
Sean Corbin	24
Leroy Richardson	24
Scott Wall	24

MOST PLAYOFF GAMES

Ken Mauer	218
Scott Foster	187
Tom Washington	172
Tony Brothers	140
James Capers	135
Marc Davis	132
Bill Spooner	122
Ed Malloy	111
Bill Kennedy	104
Zach Zarba	92
Sean Corbin	79

MOST REGULAR-SEASON GAMES

Ken Mauer	1,935
Tom Washington	1,629
Bill Spooner	1,506
Michael Smith	1,503
Scott Foster	1,477
Tony Brothers	1,466
Leroy Richardson	1,380
James Capers	1,357
Sean Corbin	1,331
Leon Wood	1,319
Bennie Adams	1,303

MOST NBA FINALS GAMES

Scott Foster	19
Ken Mauer	19
Marc Davis	12
James Capers	10
Ed Malloy	10
Tony Brothers	9
Zach Zarba	7
Bill Kennedy	5
Tom Washington	4
John Goble	4
David Guthrie	3

CHANGES TO INSTANT REPLAY RULES FOR 2019-20 SEASON

The NBA Board of Governors unanimously approved two changes to the instant replay rules for the 2019-20 season.

The first change is the introduction of a Coach's Challenge to trigger instant replay review of a limited set of matters. A version of the Coach's Challenge that was used in the NBA G League for the last two seasons and at MGM Resorts NBA Summer League 2019 has been adopted in the NBA on a one-year trial basis during the 2019-20 season.

The second change enables the NBA Replay Center (in addition to the on-court referees) to trigger instant replay in certain circumstances. This process was successfully tested at NBA Summer League in each of the last two years.

Coach's Challenge

Key features of the Coach's Challenge are below:

- Each team is entitled to one challenge in the game (regardless of whether the challenge is successful).
- A team can use its challenge in the following instances: 1.) a called personal foul charged to its own team; 2.) a called out-of-bounds violation; or 3.) a called goaltending or basket interference violation.
- A team can use its challenge on a called personal foul at any point in the game.
- In the last two minutes of the fourth period or the last two minutes of overtime, a called out-of-bounds violation or called goaltending/basket interference violation will not be challengeable and instead will be exclusively triggered by on-court referees.
- To initiate a challenge, a team must immediately call a legal timeout and the head coach must immediately signal for a challenge by twirling his/her finger toward the referees.
- If a team attempts to challenge an event with no remaining timeouts, the team is charged an excessive timeout, for which the penalty is a technical foul, and no challenge will take place.
- If a team calls a timeout to challenge an event that may not be reviewed, the team will be charged a timeout but retain its challenge.
- As with other replay reviews, in order to overturn the event as called on the floor, there must be clear and conclusive visual evidence that the call was incorrect.

NBA Replay Center Triggers

In the first 46 minutes of the game and the first three minutes of overtime, the NBA Replay Center will be able to trigger instant replay of the following events:

- ***2-Point or 3-Point Field Goals*** – i.e., whether a made field goal should count as two or three points or, in the event of a shooting foul, whether the offensive player should be awarded two or three free throws for being fouled on a shot attempt.
- ***Potential Shot Clock Violations*** – i.e., whether a successful field goal was attempted before or after the shot clock expired.

A new "courtside administrator," hired and supervised by the League Office, will be stationed at the scorer's table to facilitate and expedite communication between the NBA Replay Center and the on-court referees. The courtside administrator will not have any decision-making authority with respect to officiating calls or replay determinations.

NEW LANGUAGE IN NBA RULE BOOK REGARDING TRAVELING

The NBA Board of Governors has approved new language in the NBA rule book that governs traveling violations. The revision will not change the substance of the rule but will help eliminate the gap between the rule as written and how it has been applied in NBA games.

The official NBA rule book will now have a section that formally defines the "gather," which is a concept that has been used by the officiating staff for many years to apply the rule but was never defined in the rule book. The text of the rule will also be revised to provide additional clarity regarding how many steps a player may take after the gather occurs.

The changes to the rule book are below.

Definition of the Gather

The following definition of the gather will be added to the definitions section of the playing rules:

a. For a player who receives a pass or gains possession of a loose ball, the gather is defined as the point where the player gains enough control of the ball to hold it, change hands, pass, shoot, or cradle it against his body.

b. For a player who is in control of the ball while dribbling, the gather is defined as the point where a player does any one of the following:

(1) Puts two hands on the ball, or otherwise permits the ball to come to rest, while he is in control of it;

(2) Puts a hand under the ball and brings it to a pause; or

(3) Otherwise gains enough control of the ball to hold it, change hands, pass, shoot, or cradle it against his body.

Incorporating the Gather into the Traveling Rule

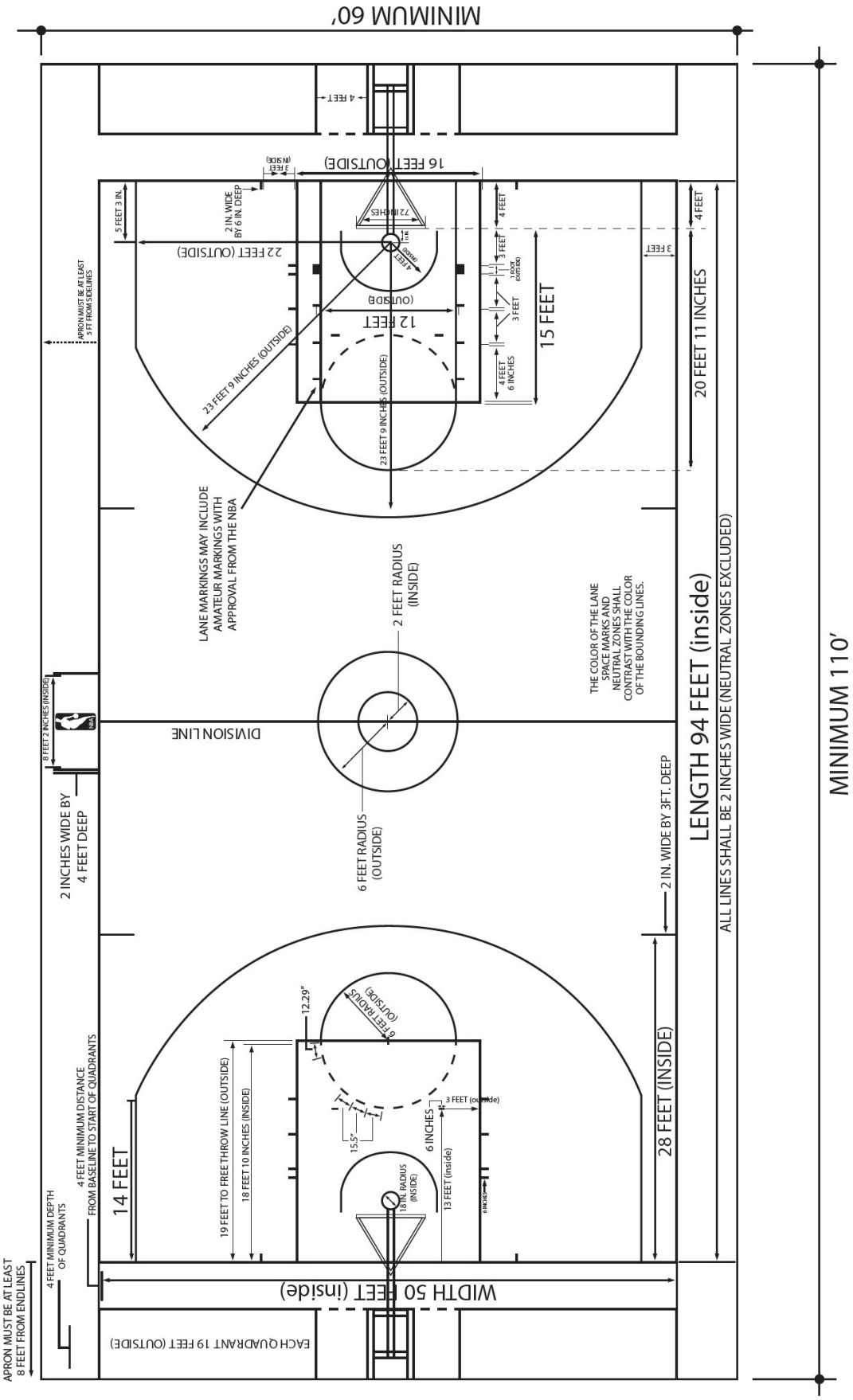
The gather will be expressly incorporated into the traveling rule to clarify how many steps a player may take after he receives the ball while progressing or completes his dribble:

• A player who gathers the ball while progressing may (a) take two steps in coming to a stop, passing or shooting the ball or (b) if he has not yet dribbled, one step prior to releasing the ball to start his dribble.

• A player who gathers the ball while dribbling may take two steps in coming to a stop, passing or shooting the ball.

• The first step occurs when a foot, or both feet, touch the floor after the player gathers the ball.

OFFICIAL NBA COURT DIAGRAM



REFEREE HAND SIGNALS

24-SECOND VIOLATION

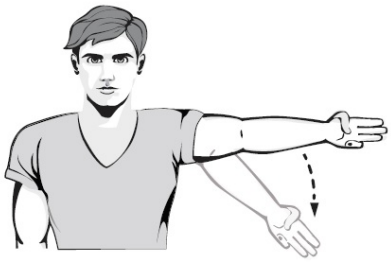
Tap head signal
'24'

3-PT. FIELD GOAL

Official will raise one
arm on attempt

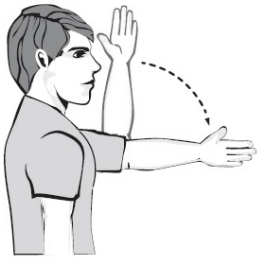
If goal is successful
raise the other arm

3-SECOND OFFENSIVE VIOLATION



Fingers sideways

DEFENSIVE 3-SECOND VIOLATION



Chop down two times
followed by technical foul
signal

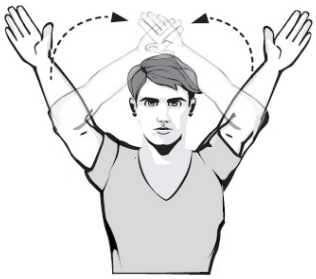
BASKET INTERFERENCE

Rotate finger
wipe out basket

BLOCKING

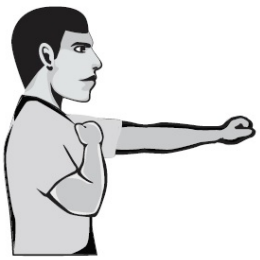
Hands on hips

CANCEL SCORED CANCEL PLAY



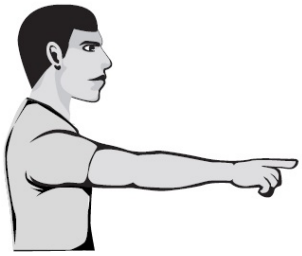
Shift arms across body

CHARGING



Clenched fist

DIRECTION OF PLAY



Point - Direction
call team color

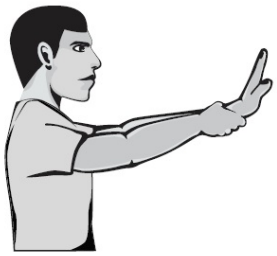
DOUBLE FOUL

Cross clenched fist
above head

GOALTENDING

"Flag" from wrist

HAND CHECKING

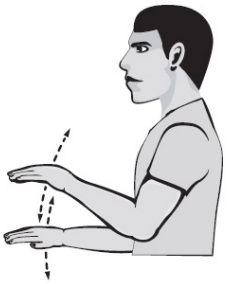


Arm straight out
opposite arm grabbing wrist.

HOLDING

Signal Foul:
grasp wrist

ILLEGAL DRIBBLE



Patting motion
call team color

ILLEGAL FOREARM

Arm bent 90° in front of
body

ILLEGAL SCREEN OUT-OF-BOUNDS

Arms outstretched and
crossed in front of chest

ILLEGAL USE OF HAND

Signal foul:
strike wrist

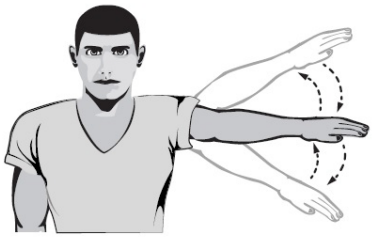
JUMP BALL

Thumbs up

LOOSE BALL FOUL

Extended arms
to shoulder level

OFFENSIVE PLAYER OUT-OF-BOUNDS

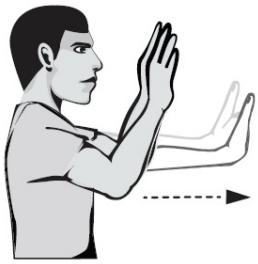


Arms outstretched to side
from shoulder to waist in
downward motion

PERSONAL FOUL

Clenched fist

PUSHING



Signal foul: imitate push

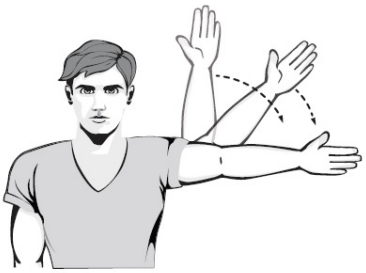
REPLAY

Twirl finger

TECHNICAL FOUL

Form T

TIME-IN

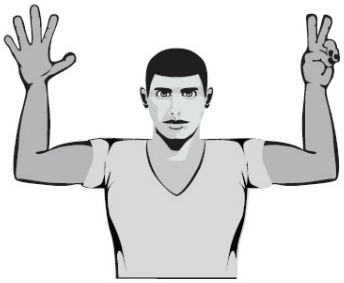


Chop hand
to side

TIME-OUT

Open palm

TO DESIGNATE OFFENDER



Hold up number
of player

TRAVELING

Rotate fists